

DAMASCUS LION'S TALE

January 2008

WWW.DAMASCUSLIONS.ORG

Volume 58 - Number 7

The President's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR

What a great year we've had so far - let's review the last 6 months:

July- Covered dish dinner, Senior Center Party, Celebrate Damascus Days, and Highway clean-up.

August- Pre-school screening at MC Fair, Ice Cream dipping at the MC Fair, and LCOF bus at MC Fair. Thanks again to all who had a part. "We Serve" really came into play.

September- Community Fair (thanks to all), Blood drive, White Cane and the GREAT Basket Bingo! What more can I say? Thank you, thank you, thank you-all!

October- Charter Night at Dutch's Daughter. 85 of us had a great night thanks to all. Road clean-up (thanks Holpuch brothers), Pancake breakfast, is it too much??

November- Thanksgiving Baskets, food pick-up at Rocky Hill Middle School and Damascus High school. (Thanks to the Damascus Chevrolet Garage for the use of their space and storage.) ... and another Blood drive by Lion Charlie. I know, this is just a review. Every LION who helped so far has been thanked but it doesn't hurt to hear it again.

December- Some of us never stop, Thank God! Senior Christmas party, our own Lions Christmas party with 95 present. My personal thanks to the Great Cooks at Damascus UMC. Can they cook or what?!! The food was as great as D.D.s and the place looked so nice it made Santa feel so good ...and his helpers too! If you see Santa and his Elves; thank them. Who says we can't have FUN? It didn't stop for 4 more days. The Holiday Basket project - I'll not say much here as Lion Mary Francis Gosnell has a note in this Lion's Tale, but, if you haven't seen Santa go up to some 3-6 yr. olds and wish them "Merry Christmas" and just watch their face, then you really don't know why we do this!

It's great to serve and in 2008 you have your opportunity to help if you haven't already. Get out your 2008 Activity schedule and let's start with Prospective member night. That's our only meeting in January and do you remember our goal at the start of July? "One A Month" You know that's not an impossible goal, not for a club of our size. There are smaller clubs that are ahead of us in recruiting new Lions to serve. What's impossible is to expect one person to do it all. Come on Lions, we need

only 12 of you active members to invite someone to attend a meeting and Lion Charlie Stone will be very happy to explain what a fine asset they would be to our club. Will 12 of you raise your hand and say, "You can count on me"?

Okay, the King Lion tried to get some of you motivated to put FUN in our meetings by dressing up, doing something different, giving out treats, telling jokes. I gave out a President's Award (Leon the Lion) at our meetings. Some felt they were left out; others have several awards, right Lion Eloise? She really got into the spirit and the King appreciates that. However, the King is going to expand it to include all the club. The award is the King's and there's no democracy in this. The King picks who gets the award and if it's still Lion Eloise, so be it, but you can try. Just have FUN!

It can be a joke (at the closing), but remember, not too shady, we are a family group meeting in a church, not the "good 'O' boys club of yore." If you get a bigger laugh than someone giving a report, dressed up, or just adds a 'Spark' to our meetings, the Leon is yours. Who will it be? I mean, come on, let's have FUN!

2008 would be great to see growth in our club and more to serve our community.

Don't forget, Lion Bill is looking for someone to help with Damascus Days this year and then take it in 2009. It's fun, could it be you? Pancake breakfast, help, help. (See L. Joy or L. Sue).

Let's have a Great 2008,

Thanks to all, Lion Pres. (KING) Gary

Santa helps with Holiday baskets.



Lion's Tale
Monthly publication of
The Lions Club of Damascus
P.O. Box 267
Damascus, MD 20872-2250



President: Gary Rogers 301-414-7470
gary@garyrogers.com
Editor: Tom Jackson 301-253-6316
wtjackson@alumni.unc.edu
Damascus Lions Web Site:
<http://www.damascuslions.org>
Lions Information: (202) LIONS22

Upcoming Events

Jan. 8 – Board Meeting at the Rec. Center (7:00)
Jan. 15 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Jan. 21 – Blood Drive at DFVD Activities Bldg.
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. 4 – Dinner Meeting at Wesley Grove UMC (6:45)
Mar. 11 – Board Meeting at the Rec. Center (7:00)
Mar. 15 – Pancake Breakfast at Damascus UMC
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

Another Holiday Basket Picture



Birthdays

Lions:

Jan. 1 – Bill Cordell
Jan. 5 – Tom Van Vliet
Jan. 6 – Bob Newlin
Jan. 19 – Fran Burlas
Jan. 20 – Dee Reichmeider
Jan. 26 – Ray Walton
Jan. 29 – Benjamin Lewis

Partners-in-Service:

None known.

Anniversaries

Jan. 18 – Ronald and Beth Brouillard

Holiday Wreaths

By Lion Charlie Hertel

I would like to first start by saying thank you to the Berry's for all the work they did this year on the wreaths before we installed them on Friday, November 23, 2007. The lights looked great. They had everything ready to go that morning before the Lions and members of the community showed up in great numbers to put up the Holiday Wreaths.

We met at the McDonalds at 9:00 a.m. We are always looking for a nice warm day to do this, 40 degrees not so bad except for the wind. We use 4 large A frame ladders to climb and put up about 45 wreaths and bows on the light posts in town that morning. It took us under 2 hours again this year to do all the work. Thanks to King Lion Gary Rogers, Lions Jack Peters, Ray Molesworth, Del Mayhew, Roy Stanley, Bill Mahylis, Bill Cordell, and Lion Barbara Barry.

Lion Barbara Berry had her husband prospective member Dan, her son John and friends Jeff, Patty and son Greg Warren all helped with installing the wreaths. What a great job they did and thank you to all the Lions for their continued support.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

12/11/2007

King Lion Gary Rogers called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Gary Rogers, Eloise Woodfield, Mary Frances Gosnell, Bill Mahylis, Martin Carr, Del Mayhew, Tucky Woodfield, Jerry Warfield, Dale Ryan, Marcia Holpuch, Tom Jackson, Dave Davidson and Ken Phillips.

The minutes from the November Board Meeting were reviewed and approved as published in the December Lions Tale.

Bill Mahylis presented to Club Treasurer report. After some discussion the report was accepted as presented. Income continues to run slightly behind budget but expenditures are also behind budget with a net of \$1724.00 for the year to date.

Mike Thornett forwarded a written report of the Foundation financial status. Both Income and Expenses were reported to be within budget. Several of the budgeted obligations were paid in November including the donations to Camp Merrick and the Honors Band. The donation to the Damascus Fire Department was also paid. The report was accepted as presented.

The requirements for the 22-C Bull Throwers Award were discussed and it was decided that a committee made up of King Lion Gary Rogers and past presidents Ken Phillips and Marcia Holpuch be formed to consider nominees for this award. Input from the club membership will be requested.

King Lion Gary read a request from the Damascus Recreation Center for volunteers to help with the activities at the Center.

Lion Tom Jackson discussed his requirements for the Community Sign Committee and was given guidance as to what Lion activities to request sign space for.

The pancake breakfast was discussed with the question asked should we continue to have two breakfasts per year. The turn out for the fall breakfast has been very low for the last two years due to many other activities in the area during the fall. After discussion, this matter was deferred the budget committee meeting in the spring.

Under new business, Lion Marcia presented a request for the Damascus High School music department for the club to support a trip to Boston in April by the school band. Since the band was planning fund raising activities, it was decided to defer any decision on this until a later

date when a better understanding of the need would be available. The motion to support this effort was tabled until the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55.

Submitted by Ken Phillips, Secretary

TWELVE DAYS OF LIONS CHRISTMAS BASKETS

By Lion Mary Frances Gosnell

1st Day of Christmas - 34 Families were assigned to the Lions Club to serve for Christmas

2nd Day of Christmas - Three Lions worked on profiling the family members

3rd Day of Christmas – Lions willingly took names of children to purchase a toy/gift for the designated child

4th Day of Christmas – Team of 6 shoppers stormed Kohl's purchasing outfits for each child

5th Day of Christmas – Teams were assign families that they will deliver to.

6th Day of Christmas – Lions gathered in their pick-ups and vans to pick up the nonperishable foods from the school food drives and from NRC

7th Day of Christmas - 25 Lions, friends, Leos and students unpacked and sorted approximately 10,000 nonperishable items in two hours.

8th Day of Christmas - Santa Albert and his Helpers canvassed the Damascus area merchants for monetary donations for the Christmas Basket Project

9th Day of Christmas - 10 Lions wrapped gifts and stuffed Santa's bag full for each family.

10th Day of Christmas - Teams and helpers packed food boxes for each family. Homemade Cookies, Candy, Canes, extra toys, homemade wooden toys, stuffed animals, Filled Christmas Stockings, fresh produce, handmade Christmas Cards by Girl Scout Troop 2479, and two bath towels were packed in a white bag with red ribbon for each family

11th Day of Christmas – 11 Delivery Teams consisting of 25 Lions and friends delivered 3 boxes of food, bag of family gifts, bag of toys and gifts for each child to 78 children, and 77 adults all of which were in 34 families.

12th Day of Christmas - Packed up excess nonperishable (Est. 1500 items) and delivered to Help

Food pantry. Cleaned up! Write reports and thank you notes.

Lions, Partners-In-Service, Friends, Leos and Students - Thank you for your support – It took all of us working together to make it happen. About 50 of us were involved with the project, worked about 330 hours and spent \$3500 serving 34 families consisting of 78 children and 77 adults.

It *warms the heart* when you arrive at a family home, the children are just getting up in the morning and Santa is at the door - bringing in gifts and food – while the family is so excited and appreciative you see them standing their saying thank you with tears rolling down their little cheeks! *I Believe!*

It *warms the heart* when you have everything packed up; closing the door on the project, and a pick-up comes rolling in the parking lot. He comes over to us and asks if we have an extra food to spare. Seems as though his neighbor has hit some hard times and he remembered the Lions usually had food leftover and asked us to support his neighbor. *Love Thy Neighbor!*

And it *warms the heart* to hear Lions talk about the project and how the families touch their hearts!

We Serve!

District 22-C BULL Thrower's Award

By Lion Ken Phillips, Secretary

District 22-C bestows this most prestigious award upon the Lion in the District who best exemplifies the desire as well as the ability to promote the spirit of Lionism.

The Board of Directors (BOD) will be considering nominees for the Bull Thrower's Award for the Lion Year 2007-2008 in February and is asking for your help. The committee appointed to evaluate nominees is King Lion Gary and past presidents Marcia Holpuch and Ken Phillips. If you would like to nominate as fellow Lion for this Award please submit his/her name to a member of this committee by February 1. It would be helpful for you to also submit information on the Lion's qualifications and accomplishments as they pertain to the criteria listed below.

The criteria to be followed in submission of nominations are as follows:

(a) The nominee has been a Lion for at least ten (10) years;

(b) The nominee is nominated by a Lions club in the district;

(c) The nominee has demonstrated a record of outstanding service towards the goals and objectives of his/her club, district and Lions Clubs International;

(d) The nominee exemplifies the Lions Code of Ethics; and,

(e) The nominee has rendered volunteer services to the community in areas such as involvement with the visual or hearing impaired, youth groups, elderly, hospitals, churches, libraries, schools, fire and/or rescue organizations and the needy. The district governor, vice district governor, district governor candidate(s) and vice district governor candidates(s) are not eligible as candidates.

The announcement of the winner of the "Bull Thrower's Award" will be during the district luncheon at the multiple district convention. The chairperson of the Bull Thrower's Award Committee who will summarize the major achievements of the recipient and make presentation of the trophy and a lapel pin will make the announcement. A miniature replica of the trophy will be presented to the previous year's recipient.

The following Damascus Lions have at least 10 years of service in the Club and meet the first criteria listed above. It is up to you to evaluate the remaining criteria before submitting names to the selection committee. Look over this list and give the committee the information they need to make a nomination so we can honor a deserving member of the Damascus Lions Club.

Eligible members: Lee Sellers, Walter Shipley, Butch Purdum, Bob Snapp, Jim Belcher, Rodney Duvall, Bob Newlin, Ken King, Albert Warfield, Jack Peters, Ray Molesworth, Bill Mahylis, Dave Davidson, Tom Jackson, Helen Boyer, Jack Poole, Wayne Marr, Mark Sain, Mary Frances Gosnell, George Connell, Happy King, Tom Van Vliet, Ray Sicotte, Charlie Hertel, Tammy Hertel, And Mike Thornett.