

District 22-A Lions News and Views

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Fellow Lions:

I hope everyone had a good Holiday season (whichever Holiday you celebrated) and a Happy (and safe) New Year's Eve celebration. December was a busy month for many clubs with Christmas tree sales, fruit sales, food boxes for the needy, and other community projects. Keep up the good work going forward.

The two parts to membership are adding new members (hopefully younger ones) and "closing the back door" - getting long time members interested again and keeping them from leaving Lions. When you are thinking of someone to ask to join, don't forget about former Lions. Maybe the circumstances that caused them to leave Lions have changed, and they would like to join again.



If you haven't seen it, Lions Clubs International has developed a five year plan. It is called LCI Forward. It will be the topic of the Cabinet meeting which will be on January 31. The location has been finalized for the B.I.S.M. Times are as always.

LVERF has started a drive to fund a new endowment. This endowment will be used to pay for the annual Fellowship in Low Vision at Wilmer. There is a letter from PDG John Schwed about it in this issue of the News and Views.

The Multiple District Convention will be May 15-18 at the Grand Wyndham in Gettysburg. More information will be presented as it becomes available. Please plan to attend. I will be looking for volunteers to fill some positions during the Convention.

Please don't forget – let me know if you have a service project or fund raiser scheduled. I would like to join you and help.

Thank you for everything you do for Lions.

Chuck

 *Happy Holidays*





1st Vice District Governor Paul Rufe

Fellow Lions:

I hope that everyone had a great holiday!! Now, as we begin the second half of the Lion's year, it is time to focus on our to-do lists with renewed energy:

Centennial Legacy Projects, *they don't have to be huge, just something to leave your mark on the community, to let them know that Lions have been here for 100 years and plan on being here for many more.*

Membership, *let's keep going strong. Remember to just "Ask One!"*

Most Importantly, **Service**, *that is why we are here.*

These next few months are going to be busy as plans are well under way for the Multiple District Convention in May and the International Convention in Chicago celebrating Lions 100th Anniversary!! Both of these events are sure to provide lots of excitement, fun, training opportunities as well as a great chance to socialize with other Lions within our multiple district as well as around the world.

If you need more information about these or other events coming up, such as region meetings, please feel free to ask for more detailed information as we would love to see more of our Lions having the opportunity to grow together.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul".



January

- 9 Edgewood (my club meeting)
- 10 Aberdeen Lioness
- 14 LYF Board
- 17 Bel Air charter celebration
- 18 West Arundel
- 19 Overlea
- 21 LVRF Board
- 23 Edgewood (my club meeting)
- 25 Havre de Grace
- 26 Darlington
- 27 LASH Board
- 30 Honorary Committee
- 31 Cabinet meeting

February

- 3-4 Regional Lions Leadership Institute
- 11 Mid-winter Conference
- 13 Edgewood (my club meeting)
- 15 Region 2 meeting
- 20 LASH membership
- 25 22-B Social
- 26 CoG meeting
- 27 Region 1 meeting

District 22A Club News and Activities 2015–2016

Bel Air Lions

The Bel Air Lions Club Youth Activities program recently made 4 more donations. Donations were made to:

Boy Scout Troop 564 (St Margaret's)	\$450
Bel Air High School – Swim Team	\$500
Bel Air High School – Girls Basketball	\$450
Bel Air High School – Wrestling	\$500

As with other Youth Activities donations, the club donates these funds to these groups based on their strong leadership and track record of developing outstanding young adults. Funds are given based on the need of various school and scouting groups each year. For example, the Bel Air Wrestling team needs extra funds this year to help cover costs for an upcoming overnight tournament in Western Maryland.

Cont. on next page.....



Bel Air Lions, cont.

In the photos attached: Lion Don Stewart speaks to the Bel Air Girls Basketball team and Wrestling team as he presents the Club's donations to these teams. Lion Don explains the role of the Lions in the community.



The Club completed another very successful Christmas Tree Sale this year. The lot was set up during the weeks of November 7 and 14, and 1500 trees arrived from North Carolina on Saturday, November 19. We had a tremendous turn out of volunteers from Bel Air High School (over 100), along with the Bel Air Explorers and Boy Scout troops to unload the trees.

We started selling trees that day. Three weeks and a day later, they were gone!! The last tree was sold on Sunday, December 11, by Lions pitching in and donating \$10 each to buy the last tree. Two days later, the lot was empty and clear! The Town of Bel Air provided amazing help by transporting all of the racks back to the shed and clearing the piles of needles from the lot.

As he has done for the past 22 years, Lion Harold Boccia led the club for this tremendous event. Over these 22 years, the Christmas Tree sales have raised over \$700,000 that have gone back to our community.



From Empty to Empty again, thanks for your support year after year.

Baltimore Brooklyn Lions

Brooklyn Lions Food Drive at Maree Farring School

Brooklyn Lions Club members Dennis Scarborough, Terri Mills and Dick Sebrosky along with Pat Pettway's daughter Noelle and son-in-law Eddie, place food in bags for the Thanksgiving food baskets provided to 24 families at the Maree Farring Elementary/ Middle School in Brooklyn. Lion President Pat Pettway chaired the event and went shopping for the food. Also, the Lions thank Maree Farring School administrative assistant, Ms. Nash, for her help

Brooklyn Lions Update Road Signs

Lions Dennis Scarborough and Dick Sebrosky, with help from Eddie Cope, updated the Brooklyn Lions road signs showing the current meeting location and date: Fred and Margie's Inn on the 4th Wednesday. The signs are at Patapsco & Pennington Avenues, Hanover Street, Potee Street and Ritchie Highway and Hanover and Potee near Harbor Hospital. The job was completed on Saturday, December 3. The signs were erected about 15 years ago, by PIP Clem Kusiak, Mike Rogall, Tom Bartnick and Dennis Scarborough.



Darlington Lions

In the spirit of giving during the holiday season, the Darlington Lions Club was busy doing just that. Delicious temple oranges and grapefruit were distributed to our customers early in the month followed the next day by the annual Christmas luncheon at the Peach Bottom Inn. On December 18, the Leos enjoyed caroling and spread youthful enthusiasm to the residents of Citizen's Nursing Home. Our Leos also collected clothing for the family they adopted for the Christmas season. Food baskets and toys were distributed to over thirty families needing some holiday cheer on December 21. Community service and time spent working together made for a successful holiday this year. We wish all a happy new year in 2017.





Jarrettsville Lions

Our December 5th meeting was our annual Holiday Party. We were treated to a traditional holiday meal by the ladies of the church. We were also treated to Christmas carols by a local young guitar playing singer. There were about 60 Lions and guests in attendance.



The Lions of Jarrettsville were busy this month helping those less fortunate. As we have been doing for many years, we provided gift cards to Jarrettsville, North Bend, Norrisville and North Harford Elementary Schools to be given to families in need. We provided a total of 9 gift cards with a value of \$400.00 each. In addition to the gift cards, we provided hats and scarves to the schools for the staff to distribute as needed to the children.



A fellow I work with sent this photo of the Lions float that was in the Rose Bowl parade. Thought you might like it for the N&V. PDG Larry Burton

We now know the Lions coins will go on sale January 18. Because you have expressed interest in the coin, you will receive links to the purchase webpages on that day. The coins will be available with either a proof or an uncirculated finish. The cost of the coin with the proof finish will be US \$ 52.95 and the uncirculated finish will be US \$ 51.95. Visit LionsClubs.org/coin for the latest information and email us at LCICentennial@lionsclubs.org if you have any questions.



Parkville Lions



The Parkville Carney Lions Club held a Quarter Auction Fundraiser on November 18. We raised a total of \$1,469.25, which will go toward the Carol Lease Memorial Fund. The fund was established by our club to honor the memory of our friend and former club member, Carol Lease, who passed away in March 2016. The purpose of the fund is to provide eyeglasses to low income children in Maryland.

Also, the Parkville Carney Leos Club held a food drive for families in need at The Maryland School for the Blind in November. They collected enough non-perishable food items to provide a Thanksgiving meal to 33 families! The Parkville Carney Lions Club purchased the turkeys to complete the meals.

Dotty Raynor
 Communications and Development Manager
www.marylandschoolfortheblind.org

Thanks for the update, Lots of friendly faces and well-designed activities. Ed.



Severn River Lions

It was a sunny and breezy Friday afternoon when Lions Nancy Earley, Chuck Horne, Jackie Hetrick and myself all reported to the Navy Stadium to work as volunteers. This is a new opportunity with which we were able to help. Volunteer chores included giving runners bibs/numbers to be worn on outside apparel, give out running shirts and/ or on the day of the event check the buses to ensure everyone and everything was off the buses as runners were transported. We had a great time laughing, talking visiting the expo, and the unexpected bonus was Dunkin Donuts and Mission BBQ box lunches that were in the volunteer breakroom for all to enjoy! This was such a fun event and we are looking forward to doing **this again next year!**



The 2016-2017 citrus season got off to a very good start on November 19 on the back lot at SPHS. The truck from Florida Indian River Groves arrived at 5:00 am. Early arrivers, Bill Stack and Ollie Wittig, journeyed to Clement Hardware to get the forklift that makes the job of unloading the truck much easier. Even the weatherman cooperated that day, and, after the sun came above the horizon, a cool but not unpleasant day was forecast. About two dozen Lions were on hand to unload the truck and place the pallets of navel oranges, grapefruit, and mix boxes to get ready for the crowd. Four energetic band students and Ray Smith's grandson assembled two citrus booths, and we were almost ready when the first customers began to arrive at 8:00 am. The booths were staffed and Lions began to accept buyers who had lined up all the way out to Robinson Road. This year, instead of colored tickets, a computerized system that printed out a receipt and copy of the orders was given to the customers who then drove to the pickup line where they were greeted and their orders were loaded. Buyers were thanked and reminded that the next two sales would be at a different location, SP Baptist Church, but we would be back at SPHS in February. As noon approached, the stacks of citrus dwindled, but there was still excess fruit for late arrivers or the "I forgot to order" customers. After last year's shortened season, Lions hope that this year's sales will rise.

Photos from the December fruit sale by the Severn River Lions club. Include are present and former band members



At the Lions Pride Luncheon celebrating 25 years of service of the MD-22 Lions Vision Research Foundation, the Trustees and our partners at the Lions Vision Center launched a new capital campaign to fund the Lions Vision Center Fellowship program in perpetuity.

MD-22 Lions have a right to ask, “Why should we do this?” The Lions Vision Center Fellowship program is unique. Dr. Robert Massof, Director of the Lions Vision Center reports “There are only 1-2 programs such as this in the United States”. “Each year hundreds of applicants apply for the one position funded by the MD-22 Lions”. “These candidates represent some of America’s brightest medical talent”. “At the LVC the Lions sponsored Fellow performs vital patient services, conducts clinical research, and receives advanced education in low vision technology and rehabilitation”.

Lions International will celebrate 100 years of service in 2017. Why not make funding the LVC Fellow in perpetuity our MD-22 Legacy Project in support of Lions International’s century of service? In kicking off this new capital campaign the LVRF Trustees have committed to providing \$100,000 annually for five years while we work to establish the new Lions Vision Center Fellowship Endowment Fund. Making a Board commitment such as this gives credibility to the seriousness of the campaign and highlights the upfront investment the Lions are willing to make, particularly to potential donors outside the Lions organization.

Our partners at Wilmer Development estimate that we will need to raise \$2.5 - \$2.8 million to provide an annual yield of \$100,000 to support the Fellowship. There will be no public date announced for completion of this goal. The Trustees and Wilmer Development will be silently monitoring progress as we go forward.

Are the Lions of MD-22 expected to raise all of this money? No. The situation is different than it was 25 years ago. The Lions Vision Research Foundation is now an established foundation with a solid record of accomplishment which should enable us to attract donations from businesses, organizations, and individuals. The Trustees are also embarking on a program to encourage donations from Lions Districts and Clubs beyond the borders of MD-22.

As with any MD-22 related fund raising campaign we are asking our member Lions, Lioness, and Leo Clubs and members to donate to this worthy cause. Donations to this campaign must be from new sources. While we build this fund we must continue financial support for annual operations through Vision Days, Annual Giving, and LVRF fundraisers. Clubs are encouraged to host special fundraisers and to seek donations from supportive businesses, organizations, and individuals in their local service territory. Personal donations from Lion members are also welcome. The Arnall Patz Fellowship can be used to recognize donors to this campaign. Donations to this new campaign should be noted as donations for “**The LVC Fellowship Endowment Fund**” in the memo section of checks or with an accompanying letter. Donations should be mailed to MD-22 Lions Vision Research Foundation, P.O. Box 1714, Baltimore, MD 21203-1714.

As our International President says “It is just one more mountain to climb”. Please join us the climb to the top! The view will be amazing.

Respectfully,
John J. Shwed, PDG
Development Chair, LVRF

Happy Holidays

Maree G. Farring Elementary School, Baltimore City Public Schools



Included are students, Vice Principal Ali and Santa, congratulating the students and wishing them a merry Christmas. Also in the photo is Vice Principal Ali's 2 month old daughter with Santa and Lion Jeanne Kusiak assisting with helping staff. PIP Clem Kusiak. (Baltimore Brooklyn Club)



Lions News and Views

Recently there was an attempt to get the District to pay a fraudulent bill. CT Cynthia Moats received an e-mail from me (supposedly) asking for a payment. She contacted me separately to verify this request. I told her it was not from me.

Apparently this has happened in other Districts within MD22. DG Ben Cassell of 22B and DG Brian Cox of 22W also received these attempts within their districts. The attempts in 22W were at the club level. As a result of these attempts, the following message was sent out to 22W clubs.

"This message is sent on behalf of District Governor Brian Cox:

It has been brought to my attention that outside parties are attempting to defraud Lions Club in our district by the following method. An email is sent to the club treasurer supposedly from the club president asking for a specific amount of money to be wired to a bank account and this transaction must take place immediately. The email includes routing numbers and other seemingly legitimate banking information. Please check the email for valid email addresses and do not wire any funds that have not been approved by your club and/or your board of directors."

I want to echo this message and urge all of us to exercise great caution.

Growth Through Community Service

Lion Chuck Egender



Editors:
Kirk Wimer and Jim Katzaman

Lions News and Views

Deadline needs to be the 20th of each month. Photos, articles and dialogs are welcomed. If we can read them and do a little editing.

Important dates this year

Here are important dates to mark on your calendars for this Lions year:

Billing: District Dues: April 1; \$3.75 per member

Region Meetings: Region I February 27, place TBD
Region II February 15, place TBD

Full Cabinet Meeting January 31, place: B.I.S.M. 6PM mixer, 7PM dinner

Board Meetings: LYF BOD January 14
LVRFBOD January 21
LASH BOD January 27

LASH Eyeglass Sorting: Oct. 8, April 8, 2017

Kirk Wimer, Darlington Lions Club
sandkwimer@netscape.net

and Jim Katzaman, Linthicum Lions Club
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22B Social is February 25.