



# Severn River Lions Club News



PO Box 118, Severna Park, MD 21146 • [www.severnriverlions.org](http://www.severnriverlions.org)  
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January's slippery slush presented challenges and opportunities to the SRLC.

## Not Another Snowy Fruit Sale Again!

On January 21, 2012 twenty-three hardy Lions arrived at Severna Park High School for the third SRLC citrus sale. During this particular morning Lions were greeted with snow, freezing rain, and a slushy parking lot. The chilly climate brought back memories of the December 2010 fruit sale during blizzard conditions. The consensus was that King Lion Rollins had failed to convince the weather man that we needed a clear and sunny day for this fundraiser. Talk of possible penalties was heard as Lions gathered to unload the trailers packed with delicious navel oranges, grapefruit, and honeybells that had arrived from Florida.

Lion Randy skillfully maneuvered the forklift and unloaded pallets of citrus. Lion Carl directed the placement of the pallets on the pickup line. On the opposite end of the parking lot King Orange Bill Zelenakas directed the capable youngsters from the Severna Park High School band in unloading and assembling the three booths that would accommodate customers shortly.

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International Theme for 2011-2012  
"I Believe"

*Continued from front page*

Volunteers mixed navel oranges and grapefruit and marked the cartons with green tape. Lion Ken Tschantre showed the ticket display for each type of citrus and soon everything was ready for the customers.

A steady drizzle melted some of the snow on the parking lot but the “shovel crew” cleared the drive area to insure safer egress for the workers and customers. About 8:00 am a few cars began the lineup and the sale was underway. It was noted that the lineup was not as intense as is normal and several Lions reported that inquiry calls as early as 7:00 am questioned the status of the day’s sale.

Three sale booths handled the customers who braved the elements and the customers were quickly and efficiently accommodated in spite of the adverse weather. As the morning went on the lines continued, but at a slower pace and by the close it was apparent that there would be surplus fruit this month.

A bright spot of the day was the hearty and delicious lunch prepared by Chefs Nancy and George. Tasty baked potato soup and a variety of cold cuts were offered to the hungry Lions who crafted and enjoyed delicious sandwiches. Then, it was “back to work” as the crew began the closedown phase.

A large quantity of citrus remained and this would be transported to Lion Rhine Jager’s garage for sale later that week.

**And The Sale Goes On...**

Due to adverse weather and ordering errors, the January citrus sale had to be extended. Many Lions were drafted to man the fruit tent at the Health Center Building and at Clements Hardware over the next six days.

From 10:00 am until about 4:00 pm on these dates hardy Lions stacked the boxes, persuaded potential customers to sample a honeybell, and carried the boxes to waiting cars. By Friday, January 27 the stockpile was down to about fifty cartons and on Saturday Lions were to be

at both Clements Hardware and at a second location, Harbor Spirits, in an effort to sell all the citrus.

One advantage of the extended sale days was the addition of about two dozen more customers to the citrus database.

The January sale was a prime example of how the Severn River Lions work together to meet all challenges. Go Lions!!

KL Rollins promised better weather conditions for the February sale and was held to his promise, though wind chill conditions were never discussed.



Signs on the ticket booths read, “Yes, we’re open.”



Additional fruit was sold at the Health Center.

## Lions Hearing Assistance Program

Lions? Oh yes, you're the eyeglass people. Lions are well known and highly regarded for our work with the vision impaired. We can be proud of our response to Helen Keller's appeal to be knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness. Most Lions clubs participate in vision screening programs and provide low cost or free eyeglasses to children and the needy.

Helen Keller also said "I am just as deaf as I am blind. The problems of deafness are deeper and more complex, if not more important than those of blindness. Deafness is a much worse misfortune. For it means the loss of the most vital stimulus—the sound of the voice that brings language, sets thoughts astir, and keeps us in the intellectual company of man." In other words, "Blindness separates us from things but deafness separates us from people."

Thirty-six million Americans have hearing loss, and the 7 million Americans who cannot afford hearing aids have become an underserved population. When people are not able to pay the high cost of quality hearing aids—which cost an average of \$3,600 each and are often not covered by insurance—they are left in silence, or with poor-functioning hearing aids. Lions provide high-quality, low-cost hearing aids to individuals who would otherwise never be able to afford them.

Does your club have a hearing assistance program? Do you provide audiometric screenings and assist people with getting hearing aids? If you don't, you have lots of company. Maybe you think that hearing aids are far too expensive for your club to afford. There are low cost

alternatives out there. Top of the line digital, multichannel aids are available from LCIF to help people who are moderately to profoundly deaf at a cost of \$200 each. Hearing aids recovered by Lions eyeglass and hearing aid recycling programs can be refurbished by Starkey Company for \$90 to \$160 and come with a one year warranty. Audiologists can be found that will provide their services for a reasonable price. Does a local college have an audiometric program? The audiology department would be more than happy to work with you to provide low cost services.

Still, a hearing assistance program is going to cost more than an eyeglass program. Fortunately, the number of people needing hearing assistance is less than that needing vision assistance. Your district may also have a foundation that can assist your club in cost sharing. It can be done. You can help someone reconnect with friends, family, people.

Interested? Contact your District Hearing and Speech Coordinator for more information. Another useful resource is LCIF. Just paste [http://www.lcif.org/EN/\\_files/pdfs/lcif128.pdf](http://www.lcif.org/EN/_files/pdfs/lcif128.pdf) into your browser and Go.

Or talk to Lion Dale, our club's hearing and speech coordinator.

**Bull & Oyster Roast!**

**Saturday, April 21st**

6–10pm Columbian Center

**Don't Forget...Ledo's Pizza Night is the 4th Wednesday of each month!**

*The Ledo's Pizza in Severna Park will donate a portion of sales to the SRLC, plus kids eat free too!*

**March 28th • April 25th • May 24th • June 28th**

*It's easy to help raise money, just stop by and get a slice of pie!*

## District 22-A Cabinet Meeting

Lions from all over the District convened at Crown Plaza in Timonium on Friday, January 13 for the District Cabinet meeting. Eleven Lions from Severn River (PDG Dick Bloomquist, Nancy Burns, KL Rollins Clark, Dick Maurer, Sue Parks, PDG Bob Muchow, Nadja Muchow, Dale Strait, Catherine Violette, Ollie Wittig, and Bill Zelenakas) joined over sixty Lions representing most of the clubs in 22-A for this session. Some socializing prior to the meeting provided Lions an opportunity to get reacquainted and hear about other club's activities. DG Owen Landis brought the gavel down at 6:45 pm and called for the traditional Lions opening. Then it was "Dinner is served" as Lions enjoyed the salad, entrée, and dessert prepared by the staff.

Following the meal the business portion of the meeting began with the approval of the minutes from the previous Cabinet meeting and the financial report. A special presentation by Lion Pam Burton included a video of fun and fund raising ideas that Lions club in the US and Britain had used successfully. Clubs were asked to be creative in choosing their fund raising activities and emphasize the "fun" element. Region chairs recounted their visitation experiences as they made the rounds to their clubs. Unanimously they commented on the enthusiasm shown by members and the club's commitment to our motto, "We Serve" Several committee chairs told of the activities offered by their groups to benefit the clubs and the community. Lions were encouraged to consider the ideas presented this evening for replication in their home club.

Several upcoming events were publicized for the Lions and these included the Lions Leadership Institute scheduled for February 17 to 19, 2012 in Emmitsburg, Maryland, the combined Regional meeting on February 19 at the Crown Plaza, and the USA/Canada Leadership

Forum, September 13 to 17, 2012 in Tampa Bay Florida. Detailed information about these special activities is available at <http://www.lions22a.org> or <http://lionsmd22.org>.

DG Owen thanked everyone for attending the Cabinet meeting and enjoined them to return to their clubs with some of the ideas presented tonight. Benediction by PCC Rowe Haywood and a reminder to "drive carefully" concluded the session.



District 22-A Lions had the opportunity to get reacquainted.



Mike Collins and Kirk Wimer.

## What You Should Know Are You at Risk of Having Glaucoma?

An estimated 3 million Americans have glaucoma.

Half of them don't even know they have it.

With virtually no warning signs or symptoms in its most common form, glaucoma is the nation's leading cause of preventable blindness.

The best way to protect your sight from glaucoma is to have an annual comprehensive eye examination. By taking this important initial step toward your overall eye wellness, diagnosis and treatment can start early and help prolong healthy vision.

People with a higher risk for developing glaucoma include:

- People older than age 60
- African-Americans older than age 40
- Those with a family history
- People who have suffered an eye injury
- Diabetics
- Those who take certain medications, such as corticosteroids

It is recommended that people with a higher risk of developing glaucoma have a dilated eye examination every one to two years.

Glaucoma is a serious condition that can lead to total blindness. Knowing your risk factors can lead to early diagnosis and treatment.

About four million people in the U.S. currently have glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness. Yet, only about half of them even realize it. Glaucoma often has no symptoms or warning signs. You may suddenly develop severe vision loss without knowing why.

There is no cure for glaucoma, so early detection and treatment are critical. This can help prevent blindness. So, it's important to know if you're at risk.

### What is glaucoma?

Glaucoma is an eye disease caused by a rise in fluid pressure inside the eye that damages the optic nerve. This nerve relays images from the eye to the brain. Once damaged, it can no longer function properly. Severe vision loss and even total blindness can result.

Since it develops gradually, many people go for years without having any symptoms. In other cases, there may be warning signs, including:

- Loss of peripheral vision
- Headaches
- Eye pain
- Blurred vision
- Frequent red eye

### Who is at risk?

Glaucoma can affect anyone, from newborns to seniors, but it's more prevalent after age 45. Even so, there are certain risk factors that make you more likely to develop it. If any of these apply, ask your eye doctor how often you should have your eyes checked.

**Genetics.** Glaucoma is a hereditary disease. You are at a higher risk if a close relative already has it. But this may not mean you will develop glaucoma.

**Ethnicity.** Glaucoma can affect anyone, regardless of ethnicity. But some groups are more likely to get it than others. The reasons for this are not yet fully understood, although heredity certainly plays a role.

- **African Americans.** Glaucoma is about five times more common in African Americans than in other groups. Those who have it are also more likely to experience vision loss at an earlier age.
- **Hispanics.** Glaucoma is very prevalent among Hispanic Americans. Older Latinos stand the highest chance of getting it.
- **Asians.** People of Asian descent are more likely to develop acute angle closure glaucoma. This is a special type of glaucoma caused by a blocked drainage canal. The results can be painful and lead to vision loss.

### Health risks

Glaucoma is also linked to certain health conditions. You stand a greater chance of developing it if you:

- Are diabetic
- Have high or low blood pressure
- Are extremely nearsighted
- Have a cardiovascular disease
- Have had a serious eye injury
- Have increased eye pressure
- Have migraines
- Are a steroid user
- Are over 60

### What if I'm at risk?

Everyone should get an eye exam on a regular basis. But if you fall into a high risk category, you should work more closely with your eye doctor to protect your vision. There are ways to treat glaucoma if it's detected early enough. And if you have a health condition, such as diabetes or high blood pressure, make sure you follow all your doctor's instructions:

- Take all medications exactly as prescribed.
- Eat a healthy diet.
- Start exercising on a regular basis (with your doctor's approval, of course).

## A Night of Celebration

The regular meeting of SRLC on February 7 featured several highlights that made this a special evening. A delicious meal catered by Adam's Rib put the group in a festive mood and the lines continued at the serving table for some time. DG Owen Landis, accompanied by cabinet Secretary Doug Dewitt, made his official visit and was very complimentary about the club's activities and contributions during his term. He recognized Treasurer Sue Parks for having brought in two New Lions and earning two awards. He urged all Lions to match this accomplishment. He also complimented and thanked the members who chaired and served on various District level committees—LEO clubs, Preschool Vision Screening, Peace Posters, Lions Quest, and LASH.

DG Owen also presented several awards that evening. He recognized the SRLC Peace Poster winner, Emily Stolarczyk, from Severn River Middle School whose entry was judged the winner at the District 22-A level and the winner at the multiple-District level. Emily's poster was forwarded to Lions International and will compete in the world finals this spring. Emily received a hundred dollar savings bond and a round of applause from the Lions.

DG Owen also presented a special certificate and award to KL Rollins whose weather forecasting skills for the January citrus sale left much to be desired. The King Lion received a poncho to be worn until his forecasting skills improve. KL Rollins promised to do better for the February sale.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a brief business session during which information about the Leadership program to be held at Emmittsburg, the Leader Dog Rally, and the multiple-District convention in Salisbury, MD. In May 2012. Lions were encouraged to participate in these events and information was made available.



District 22-A Peace Poster winner Emily Stolarczyk recognized.



DG Owen Landis congratulates Sue Parks.



District Governor Owen Landis and District Secretary Doug Dewitt.

## WWII History Lesson

Members attending the regular meeting on February 21 enjoyed a history lesson by guest speaker, John Walker, who recounted his combat experience in World War II. John served in an infantry unit in parts of Europe near the end of the conflict. He had displays of numerous items of German insignia and equipment that he and his comrades in arms had “liberated” from the Germans and these attracted quite a bit of attention. John recounted several interesting first hand experiences he had as an infantry man. He spoke of liberating the concentration camp at Dachau and the horrible conditions that affected the nearly thirty thousand prisoners who were tortured and killed. One account with a humorous twist involved an American GI who was in his foxhole without his weapon. The soldier glanced up and saw a large German soldier standing at ground level. The German soldier’s hand was extended and the GI thought he was about to be shot. Instead, the German soldier helped the American from the foxhole, handed over his weapon, and surrendered to the GI. Was it cold in Europe? It certainly was! John told of the bitter cold and wearing multi-



WWII Veteran John Walker with artifacts display.

ple layers of uniforms to ward off the chill while living in a foxhole. Most of us only know about World War II through the history books but to hear first hand from someone who endured and survived this ordeal a half century ago brought history to life. Questions from members showed their interest in this first-hand account of American history. John Walker has been invited to visit several middle and senior high school history classes to recount these experiences to the students and he reports that these visits are met with interest and lots of questions from the students.

## New Look for Severna Park Welcome Signs

If you travel Ritchie Highway or Benfield Road you have probably noticed the three Welcome to Severna Park signs with the logos of various civic groups attached. If you have driven these routes lately did you notice that the logos are missing? Not to worry-the logos have not been stolen. They were removed temporarily until the sign frames can be renovated.

The six civic groups, American Legion, Elks, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Severn River Lions, and the Rotary clubs will collaborate on the remodeling which will include new framing, new vinyl lattice, painting and new overhead signage. Clubs have volunteered to do the

“grunt work” when the weather warms. A professional sign company will restore the top of the signs.

Participating civic groups will pay an annual fee to cover future repair need. Clubs have volunteered to provide the ongoing maintenance to the signs and Severn River Lions will partner with the Kiwanis club to do the grass cutting, brush wacking, and weed pulling to the Benfield Road sign as needed.

Lions, be prepared to volunteer for this task when the call comes.

## Fabulous 4th Citrus Sale

Twenty seven Lions gathered at Severna Park High School on February 25 for all or part of the day for the Fourth Fabulous Fruit Sale.

Early arrivers procured the forklift, unloaded pallets, and enjoyed time spent in the “warming hut” supplied by King Orange Bill. Then it was time to unload the delicious temple oranges and grapefruit that had arrived from Florida.

Lion Carl directed the placement of the pallets of citrus on the line. Four energetic students from the SPHS band were on hand to unload the sale booths and set them up on the lot to be ready for customers. A crew began to mix the temple oranges and grapefruit.

As the sun peeked over the horizon the wind began to blow and the wind chill was noticeable. Lions, decked out in heavy jackets and hats, were ready for the challenge. Customers began arriving and the lines formed. Soon a double line of cars, directed by Lion Jim Coolbaugh, made their way to the pick-up lines and workers loaded the fruit into the vehicles. Customers were reminded that the March sale would be the final for the season. Inside the school Lions and workers were provided hot coffee and doughnuts to ward off the chill.

A steady stream of customers arrived throughout the morning and by late morning the thought of food took over. Inside delicious band subs and hot soup was available and helped ward off the morning chill.

By late morning the stacks of citrus had diminished and it appeared that not too much would have to be taken to Lion Rhine’s garage for pick up later.

King Lions Rollins was commended for arranging for a dry and snow free day and he promised even better weather for the March sale. The King Lion heartily thanked all the Lions who came out to assist and welcomed them back for the March sale.



Lions ready to serve, er, load cases of fruit.



King Lion Rollins delivered sunny weather and strong winds.



Severna Park High School Band volunteers.

## **For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food, I Was Thirsty and You Gave Me Drink, I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me.**

This familiar verse from Matthew could well have been the inspiration for Meals on Wheels, a nationwide program that brings meals to the housebound. Often the Meals on Wheels volunteer is the only person the housebound person may see or talk to for days. Meals on Wheels delivered over one and a quarter million meals to 3,312 clients in Central Maryland during the period 1 July 2010 through 30 June 2011. The Anne Arundel County Meals on Wheels program served 429 clients with 92,780 meals during that time period.

Central Maryland Meals on Wheels depended on 2,236 volunteers that logged 86,671 hours and drove 657,854 miles to deliver meals. Severn River Lions contributed a sizeable portion of these hours and mileage. Last year volunteers from the

club drove about 4500 miles delivering over 2000 meals from the kitchen at Woods Church to two distribution points where other volunteers delivered them to individual clients. Six Severn River Lions see to it that these important meals are delivered every Tuesday through Friday of the year, holidays included.

Four trips a week 52 weeks a year mean these six Lions are putting a lot of time and mileage into this effort. They are looking for more Lions to join them in this service project. It's a great opportunity to meet some very nice service minded people and provide some very special people nutritious meals. They need your help. Are you ready to pitch in? Contact Lion Dale for information on how you can join this select group.

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## **Pack 688 Checkered Flag Event**

The Pack 688 Pinewood Derby held on January 7th is an annual event for Cub Scouts. The Scouts, with the help of adults, have crafted a variety of race cars using the prescribed kits into one of a dozen themes. This year's themes included patriotic, unusual, futuristic, fastest, antique, animal, colorful, sports, Cub Scout and judge's choice. SRLC judges Dick Bloomquist, Dale Strait and Ollie Wittig, were tasked with choosing a winner in each of these categories with the winner receiving an attractive certificate. The judges had no easy task and some discussion and compromise was needed before reaching a final decision.

The "race is on!" It was announced that the race would be held by rank—Tigers, Bears, Wolves, Webelos I and Webelos II, and a final heat for the winners in each class. Four cars were in each heat and they were placed on the pack's new metal track. Soon the cars were rolling down the course and across the finish line. Electronic monitors at

the finish announced the winners in order, listed the Cub Scouts name and the speed of the vehicle. The top four winners in each category were presented ribbons and would be entered in the Grand Prix final to a final winner. A track side cheering section supported each race and the winners acknowledged the applause.

On the sidelines the concession stand did a brisk business as hungry and thirsty participants and spectators lined up for refreshments. At a break in the action the Lions presented the Pack with a check for their well earned pizza treat for collecting more food for SPAN than the Lions (again!). Spectators were reminded that there were brochures for the Lions monthly citrus sales available and several new customers were obtained that day. The Lions were given a round of applause for their support of Pack 688 and have been invited to assist with the bike rodeo in April and the Bridging ceremony in late May.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please check our web calendar for updates at:  
<http://my.calendars.net/srlc>

### MARCH

- 3/6 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 3/18 Melvin Jones Luncheon 12:00PM
- 3/20 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 3/24 Fifth Fruit Sale 8:00AM
- 3/28 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM
- 3/30 Third Full Cabinet Meeting 6:00PM

### APRIL

- 4/3 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 4/14 LASH Eyeglass Sorting 8:00AM
- 4/17 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 4/21 8th Annual Bull & Oyster Roast 6:00PM
- 4/25 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM
- 4/30 Region 1 Meeting 6:00PM

### MAY

- 5/1 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 5/3 LASH General Meeting 6:00PM
- 5/4 Club Officer Training 6:00PM
- 5/9 to 5/12 MD Convention Salisbury
- 5/15 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 5/24 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

### JUNE

- 6/1 Club Officer Training 6:00PM
- 6/5 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 6/15 District Turnover Meeting 6:00PM
- 6/19 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 6/28 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### MARCH

- Don Lilley – 14
- Don Rayment – 14
- George Williams – 19
- Ken Tschantre – 21
- Nelson Chesler – 31

### APRIL

- Pete Geis – 5
- Shirley Greene – 20
- Bruce Schriener – 23
- Mary Dare – 25
- Chuck Horne – 29
- Joinette Smallwood – 30



### MAY

- Bill Zelenakas – 24
- Joe McClellan – 26
- Nancy Garczynski – 28
- Dick Bloomquist – 30

### JUNE

- George Council – 9
- Carl Gilbert – 18
- Bill O'Neil – 29

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS

### Annual Officers Election

### April 3, 2012

As required by the constitution and bylaws of the Severn River Lions Club, notice is hereby given that the Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers for 2012-2013 at the General Membership Meeting on March 6, 2012. Nominations from the floor will also be taken at this meeting.

Voting for officers for 2012-2013 will take place at the regular meeting on April 3, 2012.