

September/October 2011



Severn River Lions Club News



PO Box 118, Severna Park, MD 21146 • www.severnriverlions.org
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SRLC in action at the Kinder Farm Park Fall Festival.

Lions at Kinder Farm Park

October 8 dawned a bright and sunny fall day for the annual Kinder Park Fall Festival and the Severn River Lions rose to the occasion once again. Shopping for the event began several days prior and Chief Dick Maurer had been busy shopping for the van load of commodities needed. The crew arrived at 8:00 am to erect the large tent, unload the grills, fryers, coolers, tables and appliances that would be used to prepare the delicious food treats that would be served to the hungry crowds.

Lions Dick Bloomquist, Nancy Burns, George Council, Carl Gilbert, Rhine Jager, Dick Maurer, Bill O'Neil, Don Rayment, Randy Roberts, Ray Smith, Rick Stefany, Dale Strait, Catherine Violette, Chris Werth, Ollie Wittig, and Bill Zelenakas had volunteered for the many tasks needed to make this cooking event a success. The menu that day included Italian sausage with peppers and onions, hot dogs, fried shrimp, and French fries.

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International Theme for 2011-2012
"I Believe"

Continued from front page

The large tent went up and then the grills and fryers were placed and readied for the cooking. Soon the redolent aroma of grilled sausage and hot dogs wafted around and the fryers were ready to turn out some treats. Everything was ready as the crowds arrived.

Engineer George Council had set up his train layout adjacent to the tent and the engines and cars whirled around the track. The layout was a genuine “kid magnet” and brought kids of all ages to watch the railroad.

The Kinder Park Festival is a family oriented event and activities such as hay rides, square dancing, face painting, haunted houses, scare-crow making, dog training, apple bobbing, and many more fun events again attracted large crowds to the park. Hunger pangs set in about 11:00 am and the lines formed at the various vendors on the lot. For the next three hours Lions worked non-stop to serve the customers. All the sausage and French fries were sold by the end of the day and the few remaining hot dogs and rolls would be donated to SPAN.

Chief Dick Maurer reports that this year’s event was a success and raised a sizeable amount for the club’s activities account. Dick also offered a hearty “Thank You” to all the Lions who donated the time to make this annual event a success and he invited everyone to return again next year.

Lions —“We Serve”



SRLC grillmeisters prepare for the days work.



Chef Dick mans the fryers.



Lion George's railroad was a hit with kids of all ages.

No Rain on Our Picnic

The intensity of tropical storm Lee may have caused a change of location of the annual SRLC picnic but it did not dampen the spirits of sixty Lions and guests who gathered at the American Legion on September 6 to celebrate.

The set up crew had arranged long tables and seating and placed patriotic decorations for this special event. The guests began arriving about 6:30, the bar was open, and the appetizer table overflowed with delicious pre-dinner treats that had been prepared by some of the guests. Bob, the caterer, had set up and carried in large trays and dishes of hearty green salad, cole slaw, potato salad, barbecued ribs and tangy chicken, and dessert treats which tempted the hungry crowd.

King Lion Rollins called the picnic to order and directed a traditional Lions opening ceremony. He then introduced several special guests that evening including, Past International President Clem Kusiak and Lion Jeanne from the Baltimore Brooklyn Club, District Governor Owen Landis and First Lady Zonda from the Jarrettsville Lions Club, and a delegation of four Lions from the West Arundel Lions Club; Angelo and Sheila LaCastro, Colleen Benda, and another member. KL Rollins then asked each member to stand and introduce themselves and their guest and this helped everybody to get reacquainted.

The King Lion then made some difficult decisions about the order in which the eight tables would proceed to the serving line but the line-up began without incident. For the next forty minutes the sounds of contented eaters could be heard as the delicious food disappeared. At the end of the meal the guests gave caterer Bob a well deserved round of applause for the delicious meal.

After the meal King Lion Rollins had several announcements about club activities. He then



Tropical storm Lee did not deter SRLC spirits while enjoying the annual picnic indoors at American Legion Post 175.

asked PIP Clem and DG Owen to come forward to participate in an award ceremony to recognize several Lions. Sue Parks was presented a Super Recruiter certificate and a second bronze pin for bringing in two new Lions this year. DG Owens commended Sue for the example she had set and encouraged all members to become active recruiters of new Lions. PIP Clem next presented a special certificate from the International President to King Lion Rollins Clark in recognition of his exemplary service and leadership that he has given to SRLC. Ollie Wittig was presented a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship for his contributions to SRLC.

In spite of the weather the annual picnic was a great success and everyone is looking forward to another banner year for the Severn River Lions Club.

SRLC Well Represented

The Severn River Lions Club was well represented at the Region I meeting held at Snyders Willow Grove on Monday, September 26. SRLC members Secretary Dick Maurer, Vice President Bill O'Neil, Dale Strait, Chris Werth, Catherine Violette, Membership Chair Ollie Wittig, and Zone Chair Bill Zelenakas comprised seven of the 27 attendees at this function.

The pre-meeting social gave Lions an opportunity to chat and reconnect, but promptly at 7:00 pm Region Chair Suzette Kettenhofen brought the gavel down and called the meeting to order. The traditional Lions opening was followed by remarks by District Governor Owen Landis who commended the clubs for their ongoing effort to benefit their communities. Next came a delicious buffet meal that was enjoyed by all.

Guest speaker, Glenn Kunkle, whose father is a long time Lion and Past District Governor in Ohio, a wounded former Marine with two tours in Iran and Iraq was introduced. Glenn recounted his two deployments in the hostile countries and told of the many sacrifices made by the service men and women in the mid east. Glenn was seriously wounded by a roadside bomb and underwent extensive therapy. Glenn is currently affiliated with the Wounded Warrior Project and related the many activities and services that this group provides to wounded veterans when they return stateside. He mentioned one event, a Soldiers Bike Ride from Washington to Annapolis that brought the needs of returning veterans to the public's attention. Other activities across the country were



Wounded warrior Glen Kunkle is presented an award from District Governor Owen Landis.

presented and Glenn told how service organizations can get involved in this worthwhile effort. Glenn encouraged the Lions to check the group's website www.woundedwarriorsproject.com for more detailed information about how clubs can get involved with this project. A standing round of applause was given Glenn for his service and sacrifices. Glenn was presented a special pin by DG Owen.

Some announcements from several clubs were given and Lion Suzette adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

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!

November 23rd • December 28th • January 25th • February 22nd

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



The mummy cake.



Halloween themes were popular this year.



A scary spider cake.

Judging Lions

Cub Scout Pack 688 held their annual cake judging contest on October 19 and the Severn River Lions were invited to be the judges for this fun event.

Cub Scouts and parents had crafted and decorated cakes to suit one of twelve themes, Halloween, Scariest, Disgusting, Chocolate, Cub Scout, Nature, Animal, Patriotic, Cartoon, Candy, Sports and Hobby.

The cakes arrived and the four judges, Dick Bloomquist, Bill Stack, Ollie Wittig, and Bill Zelenakas circulated around the tables to view each entry. It was not an easy task since many of the cakes showed originality and lots of work but the judges convened to compare notes and selected a final winner in each category. There was some compromising in several categories but the judges reached a decision and the results were presented.

The winners in each category received a certificate and got to take their creation home for a taste test. The judges were presented a plate of homemade cupcakes as a thank you. Cubmaster John Dennison thanked the Lions for helping that evening and invited them to return for other events. John also mentioned the upcoming Lions citrus sale and the parents each were given a brochure about the sale. Several parents mentioned that they were customers and looked forward to the fresh fruit each month.

The Lions Club also helps the Pack with the pinewood derby, the bicycle rodeo, and cooking for the annual bridging ceremony.

In November the pack will again be challenged to collect more food for SPAN than SRLC and try to win the pizzas treat—something they have done each year.

A Great Evening

The Bring A Friend Night–BOF–on October 4 was a great success thanks to the efforts of many Lions who set up colorful, attractive displays, posters, and visuals to tell about the many worthwhile service activities done by the Severn River Lions.

The BOF event is intended to show prospective members what Lions do and to recruit them to join our organization. The displays were set up on the perimeter of the meeting hall and everyone was invited to visit them and talk about the activities they represent.

Acting KL Bill O’Neil convened the meeting and announced the traditional Lions opening. A short meeting took care of the business and then Bill announced that BOF had begun.

This portion of the meeting was intended to be informal and interactive and would give the prospective members an opportunity to walk around to the displays, talk to the Lions, and learn about what the club does.

Tasty sandwich trays and cheese and vegetable platters were available for the members and guests and BOF was underway.

The prospective members, Sam Boles, Bob Ferguson and Ken McAuliffe interacted with Lions and were given brochures about Lions and a membership application form and encouraged to consider joining the SRLC team and serve our community.

Special thanks to the Lions who set up the displays and brought prospective members to the Bring a Friend event.



Guests enjoyed sandwiches and snacks.



Lion Dale explains vision and hearing screening.



Lion Ollie welcomes a visitor to the meeting.

Double Header Screenings

On October 11 and 12 teams of Lions from Bel-Air and Severn River joined forces to provide vision screening at two Baltimore City schools.

On October 11 at Patterson Park Charter School the SRLC team, Rollins Clark, Carl Gilbert, Bill O'Neil, Dale Strait, Catherine Violette, and Bill Zelenakas used the SureSight device to screen preschoolers for possible amblyogenic conditions that contribute to "lazy eye" and the Titmus device to test the far and near vision of the older children. Results will be forwarded to parents and will indicate that the child was "Pass"—no apparent vision problems or "Refer"—a possible vision problem. Parents of the "Refer" youngsters received a list of ophthalmologists and a form that the doctor is to complete and return to SRLC. The club will make follow-up telephone or email contacts with the parent or guardian to insure that a doctor's visit has been held.

On Wednesday, October 12 Lions Carl Gilbert, Dale Strait, and Ollie Wittig journeyed to Waverly Elementary for another screening session. The SureSight device and Titmus random dot butterfly test was used to screen thirty-two youngsters that day. The boys and girls arrived in groups of four or five, got a brief overview and were screened. Each youngster was given "a Lion screened my eyes" sticker—a treasured prize. In a nearby room a team of six Lions from Bel-Air used Titmus devices to screen the older children.

Nationwide about five to seven percent of children in the preschool age group have lazy eye but screenings in Baltimore have produced referrals for twelve to fifteen percent. This fact emphasizes the importance of the Lions preschool vision screening program in the inner city. Interacting with this age group can be challenging but enjoyable and if you have not had an opportunity to take part in a preschool vision screening be sure to sign on the next time.



SRLC vision screening team at Patterson Park Charter School.



Vision screening in process.



Lion Ollie busy at work sorting glasses.



King Lion Rollins seals up boxes of sorted eye glasses.

Super Sorting

Four Severn River Lions, Rollins Clark, Dale Strait, Ollie Wittig, and Bill Zelenakas, joined nearly sixty other Lions from twenty-two clubs in the District at Nefley Gymnasium at Maryland School for the Blind on October 15 for the semi-annual eyeglass sorting.

Our club had collected fourteen cartons of used eyeglasses, several hearing aids, and three cell phones since the last sorting and these were taken into the gym and added to the large stacks of cartons from the District and neighboring District 22-B. Long tables had been set up and empty cartons were available for the used eyeglasses. The instructions stated that prescription eyeglasses and sunglasses went into one carton, non-prescription sunglasses into a different carton, and eyeglass cases into a third carton. Sorters were reminded to look for eyeglass frames possibly made of gold or titanium and keep these separate for examination. Frames of these valuable metals can be sold separately.

Lions clustered around the tables and the sorting began. As cartons were filled they were moved to another area where Lion Joey Livingston and his crew taped the cartons and placed them on pallets. Lions were reminded

that coffee, tea, and doughnuts were available for the sorters and most took advantage of these treats.

For the next several hours the sorting progressed. Lions also engaged in conversations and compared notes on what their individual clubs were doing.

When the last boxes of glasses had been sorted and packed there were two large pallets filled with the cartons which would be taken to a facility in northern Virginia where they are sanitized, graded, and packaged for shipment to third world countries. The eye glasses will help less fortunate individuals to better vision and better quality of life.

It was estimated that over ten thousand pairs of used eyeglasses had been collected and packaged that day. The cartons were loaded, the tables stored, and the gymnasium was returned to its original condition. The collection and sorting are an example of Lions living up to our motto, "We Serve."

Season Finale

The final SWAT venture—cleaning up a section of Ritchie Highway between Magothy Bridge Road and East-West Blvd—was Saturday, October 22 and the crisp fall weather encouraged the Lions to walk briskly.

The crew gathered at the Earleigh Heights Fire Department lot at 8:00 am, enjoyed fresh doughnuts provided by our leader, put on the bright vest and hats, and got the “marching orders” for the morning’s walk. Led by Chief Highway Engineer Rollins Clark, the Lions including Carl Gilbert, Carroll Hicks, Rhine Jager, Randy Roberts, and Ollie Wittig set out to clean up the trash tossed by careless motorists. The usual debris of beer and soda cans, bottles, food containers, cigarette packs, parts of damaged cars, discarded clothing, and several hub caps were some of the day’s treasures. Also found was a

small stuffed teddy bear which will become a companion for the SWAT mascot, Tigger.

The teams walked south on Ritchie Highway and after an hour nearly ten bags of trash had been collected and placed for pickup by state highway crews.

If you missed a chance to join a SWAT team this year there will be more opportunities next spring since SRLC has committed to do this task from April to October. Come on out and let motorists see Lions in action.

Go SRLC—“We Serve.”

Lions Helping Meals On Wheels

For thirty six years Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland—MOW—has been serving disabled or homebound adults who choose to live independently but cannot manage to shop or cook for themselves. Monday through Friday MOW provides these clients with hot and cold meals that are delivered by volunteer drivers who also check on the client’s health status.

In Anne Arundel County there are three locations that package and deliver the meals. In our club’s service area the Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church is the packaging center for central Anne Arundel County and serves Severna Park and the Pasadena area.

For several years members of the Severn River Lions have volunteered as drop off drivers for two routes in Pasadena. Each day the Lions are at the church at 10:30 to pick up the packaged food and deliver it to two churches in Pasadena where volunteer drivers deliver the meals to

their clients. Currently Lions Nancy Earley, Oriey Glenn, Bill O’Neil, Dale Strait, Ken Tschantre, and Ollie Wittig share the task of delivering the meals to the churches.

The MOW service from Woods Church currently serves nearly sixty clients and provides them with wholesome meals. Being a drop off driver for MOW is one of the easier civic tasks that Lions perform and volunteers are needed for this worthwhile task. Drop off drivers can deliver the packaged meals to the two churches in approximately an hour and a driving distance of about twenty two miles.

Lions interested in volunteering to help can check the Meals on Wheels website for more detailed information. If interested in volunteering talk to one of the current drivers for some first hand information.

We are Lions- “We Serve”



KL Rollins Clark presenting Lion Dale Strait an award from Rebuilding Together for building a handicap ramp in Glen Burnie.



Lion Sue Parks received her second new member award.



SRLC Teen Court plaque.

Strike Up the Bands

For the thirty-third year Severna Park High School hosted the annual Tournament of Bands on Roberts Field at the school on October 1, 2011. Eight bands from across Maryland convened on a cloudy night to perform and march for the audience.

The SPHS Falcon Band began the evening with a stirring rendition of the National Anthem that brought the audience to their feet. The evening's format and the judges were introduced and then it was "strike up the band!" The eight bands, categorized by size, quickly took the field and were introduced. Each band had approximately fifteen minutes to perform their routines and the audience was treated to great music, intricate marching, and colorful flags twirling. Judges marched with the bands and evaluated the performances and the results would be provided to the band directors.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature was not a friend of TOB and steady rain during the evening dampened the enthusiasm of the audience. The band members, attired in clear plastic ponchos, performed admirably in spite of the rain and showed their school spirit throughout the evening.

For at least twenty five years the Severn River Lions Club has provided the trophies that were presented to the winning bands and our club's contribution to the Tournament was recognized by a full page add in the TOB program booklet. Traditionally, the King Lion is present to give the trophies but KL Rollins was out of town and delegated Ollie Wittig to fill in that evening.

If you enjoy stirring marching and good music and have not visited a TOB in the past then mark your calendar for the first week in October next year for this stellar event.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

NOVEMBER

- 11/15 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 11/19 First Fruit Sale 8:00AM
- 11/23 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

DECEMBER

- 12/2 LASH General Meeting 6:00PM
- 12/6 Holiday Dinner 6:00PM
- 12/17 Second Fruit Sale 8:00AM
- 12/28 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

JANUARY

- 1/3 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 1/13 Second Full Cabinet Meeting 6:00PM
- 1/21 Third Fruit Sale 8:00AM
- 1/25 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

FEBRUARY

- 2/3 LASH General Meeting 6:00PM
- 2/7 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 2/10 Combined Region Meeting 6:00PM
- 2/21 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 2/25 Fourth Fruit Sale 8:00AM
- 2/22 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

NOVEMBER

- Nadja Muchow – 2
- Carroll Hicks – 5
- Bobby L. Edmond – 17
- Jim Talentino – 20
- Bob Engh – 21
- Nancy Earley – 25

DECEMBER

- Susan Parks – 5
- Mary Boblitz – 5
- John Linsley – 13
- Mike Anderson - 19
- Nancy Burns – 20
- Rick Stefany – 23
- Rhine Jager – 26

JANUARY

- Rick Mulderick – 5
- Randy Roberts – 7
- Oriey Glenn – 11
- Don Counts – 17
- Wayne "Skip" Beckett - 21
- Art Foehser – 25

FEBRUARY

- Dick Maurer – 15
- Joe Hunter – 27



SRLC guest speakers from Hoby: Douglass Macleay, Carol Applegate, Greg Van Suetenderel and Pablo Escubosa.