



Severn River Lions Club News



PO Box 118, Severna Park, MD 21146 • www.severnriverlions.org
David Knabel, Editor • Ollie Wittig, Staff Writer

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Great Charter Night! SRLC Celebrates 55th Year

Nearly fifty Lions and guests convened at the American Legion on April 5 to commemorate the Severn River Lions Club's fifty-five years of service to the community. Guests walked into the hall where tables, gaily decorated with purple and gold table linens, announced that this would be a festive evening. After a brief period of socializing, some libations, and excellent snacks, President Rollins Clark convened the meeting with the traditional Lions opening. He then introduced the special guests for the evening; Immediate Past District Governor Senora Haywood and Past Cabinet Chair Rowe Haywood. Also introduced were prospective member, Shirley Riffle, and entertainer, Stephen Paul. Adams Ribs had prepared a special feast for the occasion that included garden salad, prime rib, roast turkey with stuffing, mashed potatoes, honey glazed carrots and a special dessert, a large sheet cake decorated with the Lions logo to commemorate the club's fifty-fifth anniversary. Lines formed and soon Bob, our excellent server, was busy on the serving line. For the next half hour Lions got to enjoy the excellent meal and continue socializing.

After dinner and dessert the group got down to business. President Rollins Clark presented the slate of officers drafted by the nominating committee for leaders to guide the club during the 2011-2012 Lions year. The slate was accepted and voted on by the members and the names will be forwarded to Lions Club International.

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International Theme for 2010-2011
"A Beacon of Hope"

Bull & Oyster Roast!

Saturday, April 30th

6-10pm Columbian Center

IPDG Senora commended the club for the many worthwhile activities the past year. She stated that the Severn River Lions Club was one of two clubs in the District to meet all the criteria for President's 100% Achievement Award during 2009-2010 and presented Immediate Past President Jon Valett with a 100% Presidents Pin, a certificate, and a special patch for the club's banner.

President Rollins next announced that several members with long tenure in the club would be honored tonight and presented a special certificate denoting their long service to the Lions Club. Ray Smith-48 years, Jack Randall-39 years, George Councill, Jr.-37 years, Bob Siska-31 years. The long serving members were recognize with Life member status in the club.

Lion Sue Parks was given well deserved thanks for putting together the program for the evening which included a listing of all members by years of service, the names of officers when the club was chartered in 1956, the names of charter members, the past presidents of SRLC, the names of the fifty one members granted a Melvin Jones Fellowship, and a narrative account of the club's history and list of service activities that are done in the community.

It wasn't all business, however. Stephen Paul, guitarist and singer, delighted the group with harmonious ballads and folk tunes, and many members resisted the urge to join in a sing along.

All good things must end, however. The meeting was declared adjourned as President Rollins heartily thanked everyone who had contributed to the successful evening. The clean-up crew began to clear the tables, stack the chairs and tables, and return the hall to its original condition. Satisfied Lions and guests began departing for home with pleasant memories of the evening

**Happy 55th Anniversary
Severn River Lions Club!**



The SRLC 55th Charter Night celebratory cake.



Stephen Paul provided live entertainment for the festivities.



IPDG Senora Haywood presents the 100% Presidents Pin.



Libations were available at the bar.



Lions Chris and Ollie with prospective member Shirley Riffle.



IPDG Senora presents the 100% Presidents banner patch.



Lions Don and Ray enjoy hors-d'oeuvres.



Lions enjoy time to socialize at the brightly decorated tables.



Bob from Adam's Ribs serves up the prime rib.

SRLC Honors Four “Senior” Members

Four long serving members of Severn River Lions Club were recognized and honored at the club’s 55th anniversary Charter Night celebration on April 5, 2011. The four members, whose combined tenure with SRLC totals one hundred fifty years, were presented a certificate and were conferred with Life membership status in recognition of their long and dedicated tenure. Receiving recognitions were:

Robert Siska joined in 1980 and has been a contributing member for 31 years. Bob has held offices as director, vice president, president and chaired or worked on the fruit sale, July parade, and social committees. Bob was presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship named after the founder of Lions International.

George Council, Jr. became a Lion in 1978, following in his father’s footsteps. During George’s 33 years in SRLC he has served as Lion tamer, director, vice president, and two terms as president and was presented the President’s Excellence Award. George’s committee service has included fruit sale chairman, Camp Merrick chairman, Rebuilding Together chairman, and has been active in all the club’s fund raisers. George is also a Melvin Jones Fellow.

John “Jack” Russell, joined Lions 39 years ago in 1972 and has been a contributing member. Jack has been the tail twister, membership chair, secretary, Lion Tamer, director and worked on the blood drive, July 4 parade, safety committees and continues as an active worker at the citrus sales. Jack was also presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship in recognition of his service.

Ray Smith is our “most senior member” whose joining date in 1963 has garnered nearly a half century of service to SRLC. Ray has held nearly all offices – director, vice president, president, and led the membership, education, scholarship, and loan closet committees. Ray also was presented a Melvin Jones Fellowship for his service to Lions.



King Lion Rollins Clark presents Lifetime Membership to George Council Jr.



Lion Jack Randal receives Lifetime Membership from King Lion Rollins Clark.



Ray Smith receives Lifetime Membership from SRLC President Rollins Clark.

March Madness Preschool Vision Screening

If you thought that the expression March Madness applied only to the annual NCAA basketball finals then you didn't take part in the numerous preschool vision screening sessions offered by the Severn River Lions during March. A total of eight screening sessions were provided at Barclay, Margaret Brent, Dallas Nichols, and Waverly Elementary Schools in Baltimore City and at St. Martins Day School and Edinboro Early School in Severna Park. Lions used the SureSight digital screener to test the preschoolers for possible amblyogenic conditions that could contribute to lazy eye and the Titmus screener to check the stereoscopic vision. Lazy eye is a condition that, if detected and treated early, can be corrected but if not detected can lead to serious vision problems that are more difficult to correct later. Testing the active three to six year old youngsters can sometimes be a challenge but Lions agreed it was an enjoyable experience.

During the eight sessions 225 youngsters were screened. It was determined that twenty five children had one or more of the conditions of amblyopia and twenty two, while not showing signs of lazy eye, may need eyeglasses for other potential problems. Parent of all youngsters screened received a report of the results on each child. Children who were listed as "REFER" or "EYEGLOSS REFER" were provided a list of area ophthalmologists and a examination report that is to be completed by the eye care professional and returned to the club.

Lions Rollins Clark, Jim Coolbaugh, Nancy Garczynski, Carl Gilbert, Bill O'Neil, Dale Strait, and Ollie Wittig operated the screening instruments and kept the records for these screenings. Lions interested in getting on board the preschool vision screening team should contact either Dale or Ollie. Hope to see more Lions at future screenings!



Lion Ollie Wittig administers a Titmus test.



Lion Dale Strait prepares the SureSight to check for lazy eye.



Test results are presented and discussed with the children.

SRLC Scholarships Awarded for 2011

The SRLC Scholarship Committee (Mary Dare, Sue Parks, Chris Werth, and Ollie Wittig) were challenged again this year to select the most deserving winners from the field of scholarship applicants from Broadneck and Severna Park High Schools. The scholarships, which provide a thousand dollars per year for up to four years, are awarded based on academic performance, involvement in extra-curricular activities in the school and community, teacher recommendations, financial need, and the student's potential to excel in college. The scholarships can be extended for an additional three years provided the conditions under which the original award was made have not changed and the club's financial resources will support an extension.

At Broadneck High School the winner of the Patrick Dionne Memorial Scholarship is Stephanie Turley. During her tenure at Broadneck Stephanie carried a demanding academic course load and was ranked in the upper twenty percent of her class of 509 students. Stephanie has been involved in sports at the community level, has held baby sitting jobs for four years, has served a tutoring internship at the middle school level during the junior and senior years. Stephanie plans to be a middle school level teacher, a career she has envisioned since she was in third grade. Stephanie has expressed interest in teaching disadvantaged youngsters. Stephanie has been accepted at several colleges but has expressed a preference to attend Stevenson University because it offers the best middle school education training.

At Severna Park High School the winner of the E. Roy Shawn Memorial Scholarship is Alex Pipes. In addition to a rigorous course load during his tenure at SPHS Alex participated on cross country track and tennis teams and found time for involvement in community based sports activities. Alex was selected as a member of the National Honor Society in his junior year and was the lead cartoonist for the school newspaper for four years. Academically, Alex is in the top fifteen percent of his class of 456 seniors. Alex attained the AP Scholar Award, Minds in Motion, and top Scholar Athlete during his tenure at SPHS. Alex plans to pursue a career in engineering and has been accepted at Towson, James Madison, and Penn State and expects to finalize his college choice shortly.

The Severn River Lions Club can be proud of this year's scholarship recipients and of our role in helping these deserving young people to advance in their chosen career fields. Remember that the proceeds from the annual bull and oyster roast provide the bulk of the funding for the club's scholarship program so get out and sell those bull roast and raffle tickets!



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!

April 27th • May 25th • June 22nd • July 27th

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

Spring 2011 Sorting

On April 2 Lions Dale Strait and Ollie Wittig joined nearly a hundred Lions from the District at Maryland School for the Blind for the semi-annual eyeglass sorting. Used glasses that had been collected by District 22-A clubs and two palettes of eyeglasses from District 22-B filled the front of the gymnasium. Early arriving Lions set up a dozen long tables in the gymnasium and boxes and bags of glasses were placed there for sorting. Off to the side Joey Livingston and his crew assembled the boxes to hold the eyeglasses. The coffee and doughnuts arrived and Lions fortified themselves before getting to work. The instructions said to sort used eyeglasses and prescription sunglasses into one carton, non-prescription sunglasses in a different carton, and eyeglasses with gold or titanium content were passed to PDG John Andrews for verification.

The sorting also provided the opportunity for Lions from different clubs to meet and chat about their respective clubs. Over the next two and a half hours the Lions sorted the ninety-three boxes of eyeglasses estimated to be nearly twenty thousand pairs of glasses that would be forwarded to the facility in northern Virginia for sanitizing and grading. These glasses are then provided to missions to third world countries to aid less fortunate people living in impoverished areas. Lions also collected used hearing aids that will be provided to Towson University for distribution through their hearing aid program. Several used cell phones were also collected and will be recycled.

This long time Lions project cost little except the time and effort to collect, sort, and process them for another life. Clubs are encouraged to place collection boxes in their service areas and bring them to the semi-annual sorting. Lions Clubs International has information about the eyeglass collection program, collection boxes, and certificates and literature for distribution to the public.

Hope to see more SRLC members at the Fall 2011 sorting!



King Lion Rollins Clark and Secretary Dick Mauer show their Marti Gras spirit at the March 1st meeting.



Guest speakers for the March 1st Mardi Gras dinner meeting were 1st VDG Owen Landis, candidate for DG and 2nd VDG candidate Lion Dan Scott from Jarrettsville Lions Club.

Pack 688 & Pack 855 Bike Rodeo Helpers

Sunday, April 3 was a chilly but sunny day at Shipley's Choice Elementary as Cub Scouts and parents from Pack 688 and Pack 855 arrived at the rear lot to prepare for the Pack's annual Bike Rodeo. SRLC Lions had been tasked again to perform the pre-ride safety check on the nearly fifty bicycles that showed up. Lions Dick Bloomquist, Jim Coolbaugh, David Knabel, Dick Maurer, Bill O'Neil, and Ollie Wittig were on hand with tire pumps, gauges and wrenches to perform the pre-ride safety inspection and coach the youngsters on cycling safety.

Lions checked the proper seat adjustment, looked for safety devices—reflectors and bells or horns—showed the riders how to find tire pressure information on the tire, and check the helmets for proper adjustment. The pre-ride inspection went smoothly and the Cub Scouts were soon circling the lot to demonstrate riding ability, guiding the bikes up inclined ramps, and riding an obstacle course, and having fun interacting with the visiting Cub Scouts. Most parents had obviously worked with their sons on the pre-ride inspection so the Lions job was made easier. At the end of the ride Cub Scouts were given a healthy treat—an orange with a peppermint stick—a Pack favorite.

This annual event is one of several Cub Scout-family events that Pack 688 offers. The SRLC chefs have been invited again to prepare the hamburgers and hot dogs for the pack's annual bridging ceremony which will be held at Lake Waterford park on June 5. Lion George's large grill will be pressed into service again for this cook-a-thon. The parents appreciate our help with this event because it frees them to participate in their son's bridging rather than man the grills.



Lions Dick, Dick, Bill, Ollie, Jim and Dave at the Bike Rodeo.



The pit crew inspecting a bike.



Pack 688 and 855 scouts lined up and ready to start!

SRLC Welcomes Jim Coolbaugh

New Lion Jim Coolbaugh was inducted as a new member of the Severn River Lions Club on February 15 by King Lion Rollins Clark. During the induction Lion Jim was flanked by his co-sponsors, Bob Siska and Chris Werth, who presented him with a Lions lapel pin, a certificate of membership, an SRLC ball cap, and offered to help him meet other members and get involved in our club's many service activities.

Jim and his wife, Patty, currently live in Millersville where they raised four children. For years Jim worked with Bob Siska in the insurance industry. Jim listed his current status as "semi-retired" but he still assists a son in law in the lawn maintenance business. He also holds several insurance awards and designations including Chartered Life Underwriter, Certified Senior Advisor (CSA), Vice President on Nationwide Insurance Retirees Association for Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia. At the community level Jim is currently the vice president of Crain West Community Association.

Jim is a native Pennsylvanian and grew up there and is a graduate of Susquehanna University. He admitted that he enjoys an occasional Yuengling lager and recommends a tour of the



Lion Jim Coolbaugh was inducted on Feb. 15th by King lion Rollins Clark with sponsors Lions Bob Siska and Chris Werth.

plant to see it brewed. Before migrating to and settling in Maryland, Jim and Patty lived in numerous other locations. In his "spare time" Jim enjoys traveling, community service, and holds a private pilot license. With his background and interests Jim Coolbaugh will be a welcome addition to SRLC and we are looking forward to working with him for the betterment of our communities.

Welcome Lion Jim Coolbaugh!

SRLC & Annapolis Lions Joining Forces Again

On April 13, for the tenth year, Severn River and Annapolis Lions Clubs joined forces to provide vision and hearing screening at the annual Health Fair at Anne Arundel Community College. Severn River Lions, Dale Strait and Ollie Wittig, joined Annapolis Lion, Steve Smith, to offer acuity vision screening and hearing screening. The Lions were one of thirty four health services providers at AACC who lined the student union dining area that day. There were a wide range of services for college age and senior citizens available and large numbers

took advantage to get information on a variety of topics. The Lions screening location in a room adjacent to the main area required colorful signage and personal invitation to attract prospective clients. During the session about twenty five individuals of all ages were screened and provided results of the vision and hearing tests. While the turnout was modest the screeners managed to let the public know of some of the services provided by Lions. We are looking forward to returning again next year in this joint effort with Annapolis Lions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

APRIL

- 4/19 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 4/27 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM
- 4/29 LASH Meeting 6:30PM
- 4/30 Bull & Oyster Roast 6-10PM

MAY

- 5/3 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 5/10 Board Meeting 7:30PM
- 5/12 to 5/15 MD22 Convention-Salisbury
- 5/17 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 5/25 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

JUNE

- 6/7 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 6/14 Board Meeting 7:30PM
- 6/21 General Meeting 6:30PM
Officer Turnover
- 6/22 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM
- 6/29 LASH Meeting 6:30PM

JULY

- 7/5 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 7/12 Board Meeting 7:30PM
- 7/19 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 7/27 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

APRIL

- Pete Geis – 5
- Lynette Walters – 16
- 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



Sheriff Ron Bateman was guest speaker at the March 15th St. Patricks Day meeting.