

SEVERN RIVER Lions Club

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February 2016 Newsletter

Half Century of Service

The January edition of the Severna Park Voice had an excellent article about one of SRLC's contributing members. Lion Ray Smith was presented the paper's Volunteer of the Month award in recognition of his half century of service to the club and the community. Ray joined SRLC in 1963 and has been an active and contributing member for over fifty years and was recognized for "perfect attendance" during that time. Ray has been an active participant in many of the clubs service activities and held office. He served as chairman of the scholarship committee for twenty years and during his tenure scholarships have been awarded to seniors at Broadneck and Severna Park High Schools. Ray did not limit his services to just scholarships and actively participated in man of the club's service activities and was also involved in community activities. In recognition of his service over the years Ray was presented the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Time has not slowed Ray down and he plans to continue to be an active participant in the Severn River Lions Club's many service activities. Ray is a prime example for other members who endeavor to live up to the Lions motto "WE SERVE." Ray deserves a hearty "thank you" for a half century of dedication and service to SRLC.

The SRLC is looking for a special individual to recognize and reward for their extraordinary dedication to and excellence for volunteerism in community service and outreach. The winner will be recognized at our 60th anniversary dinner on April 5, at the Blue Dolphin. Nominations can be sent to Lion Bill O'Neil

Order your Honeybells and Grapefruit from the Severn River Lions Club - **NOW**

| Item | Size | Cost | |
|------------------------------|----------|---------|-------|
| Honeybells | 2/5 Bshl | \$30.00 | _____ |
| Grapefruit (Ruby Red) | 2/5 Bshl | \$22.00 | _____ |
| | 4/5 Bshl | \$37.00 | _____ |
| Mixed Honeybell / Grapefruit | 2/5 Bshl | \$27 | _____ |

Next sales February 20 & March 19th, 2016

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A Nutty Day

The news from H & S Citrus in Florida cast a shadow on SRLC's December sale since navel oranges and grapefruit would not be available due to a quality problem with the oranges. Several Lions had been drafted to contact customers who had ordered and relay the bad news. King Orange Carl announced that the supply of pecans, cashews, almonds, and mixed nuts was plentiful and that sale and distribution of these would take place on December 19 at SPHS. Instead of the usual colorful sales booths and long lines of citrus seen as customers pulled into the lot they saw a travel trailer and a hearty group of Lions who were braving the chill to deliver the nuts. Customers began arriving and were greeted, given a written report of the cause of the orange shortage, received an apology, and thanked for their understanding. Many customers who had order nuts arrived and the packages of nuts were delivered with a hearty "thank you" and we hope to see you next month. Carl is awaiting word from H & S about the quality and availability of citrus in January and as soon as this information is known a decision on the January sale will be made. The seven hearty Lions who worked shifts that day had a chance to socialize, greet and chat with customers,



and sip hot coffee and delicious bagels that Lion Bill Z. had provided. The December sale is traditionally one of the biggest and the loss may impact our club finances this season so fund raising options to remedy this will be considered. We hope that the news from H & S Citrus is much better for January.



Lion Carl Gilbert Fruit Sale chairman

A Note from Lion Carl

The January Fruit Sale was the smallest sale since I have been a Lion. We did not know if we would have Honeybells until January 2nd and while we got the email announcements out we did not get the postcards sent.

We ordered 25% more Honeybells and 2/5 bushels of Grapefruit as extras for Saturday and also sold them at Clement's Hardware on Sunday. At the end of the Sunday sale we had only 2 large boxes of Grapefruit left and Ken Tschantre took them to the Maryland Food Bank.

I would like to thank all the Lions that turned out on Saturday and Sunday and made our small sale a success.



Vision Screening for Preschool Children Helping Kids See Clearly Into the Future

Screening of children in the Pre-K Classes for possible vision problems has become an important community service. Prevention of blindness and serious eye disorders is the primary focus of the Severn River Lions Club.

Amblyopia

Amblyopia is the medical term for "lazy eye" - an eye that is not working the way it should.

In children, conditions leading to Amblyopia are not usually diagnosed or treated until the child reaches school age. But it is well established that treatment should begin before the

age of six. Amblyopia affects about 3% to 5% of all American children. If left untreated

it can result in severe loss of vision in one eye. Lions Clubs are committed to

helping those children avoid permanent loss of vision.

There are multiple eye conditions that lead to Amblyopia and the vision screening

tests conducted by trained volunteer Lions are 85-90% effective in finding these

vision problems in their early stages.



Lions Preschool Vision Screening Program

Since 1925 the Lions have been dedicated to programs that conserve sight and assist

the vision impaired. The Severn River Lions offer free vision screening for preschool

children at a variety of events. Volunteer Lions using a sophisticated Plusoptics camera check

for refractive errors in each eye and then perform a separate test to evaluate the child's

stereoscopic vision. Tests are fast and painless and the results are given to the parents

immediately after the testing. These screening tests are not a substitute nor are they as

effective as a complete eye examination conducted by an eye care professional. Lions

encourage such examinations when children's test results indicate potential

problems. Indeed, Lions encourage routine thorough eye examinations for everyone.

everyone.

Lions Learn About Meals on Wheels

The guest presenter at the February 2 meeting was Chris Newman, director of Meals on Wheels at Woods Church in Severna Park. Chris began by thanking the Lions who are currently helping with the meal delivery four days a week. The MOW center at Woods Church currently serves about three dozen clients who are ill or unable to prepare



meals on their own. The meals, a combination of hot meals, cold meals, and frozen meals are prepared at the central MOW facility in Baltimore and brought to the church where Chris packages them in coolers and hot containers for the volunteers to transport. For at least five years at least nine Lions have served as drop off drivers for two routes in the Pasadena area. At the two churches they meet a

delivery driver who will take the meals to the clients. Lions get the food containers from the previous day and return them to Woods church. Three other routes are served by drivers who deliver the meals directly to the clients. Currently nine Lions are volunteering four days a week and Chris said that assistance to pick up and drop off the meals on Monday is needed so Lions who are available that day can volunteer to be drop off drivers. Meal containers can be picked up about 10:30 am at Woods Church and taken to two Methodist churches in Pasadena. The drive and delivery takes just over an hour and covers about twenty miles. Assisting Meals On Wheels is an example of how Lions can serve the community so if you are available on Monday please contact Chris Newman at 410-608-2660 or via email at woeisme456@yahoo.com.



Lion Chris Werth

At the January 19 dinner meeting Lion Chris Werth presented a talk about BLINDNESS. The causes, vocabulary , eye diseases and interactions were discussed



Lion Oriey Glenn is 90. His family hosted a surprise birthday party for him on Saturday January 16th at the Asbury Town Neck Church. His family, friends and fellow Lions attended the party to say Happy Birthday and hope they will be invited to his 100th birthday

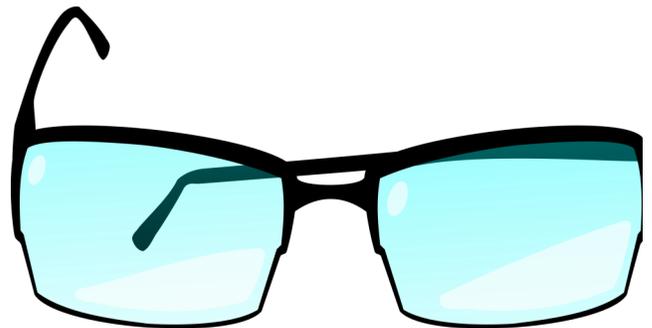


LASH OneSight Program

LASH administers the OneSight Program in District 22-A. The OneSight Program, a Lions and LensCrafters partnership, provides eye exams and glasses for needy children and adults. To qualify for the program, the party in need cannot have insurance that covers the cost of eyeglasses. Only those with no insurance or insurance that may or may not cover eye exams may participate.

Individuals must also meet the financial needs criteria of earning less than three times the Federal Poverty Guideline for the size of their immediate household. School children on medical assistance receive eye exams from that program. Students who are on the school lunch program automatically meet the qualifications required. Requests are evaluated one at a time for all other students.

Individuals seeking assistance should contact their local Lions club. The local Lions club verifies the financial need, insurance coverage available and whether the individual or club can contribute \$25 for eye exams. If the necessary financial and insurance coverage qualifications are met, the club contacts the local LensCrafters store manager to determine the cost of the eye exam and glasses, confirm a voucher is available to cover the cost of glasses and arrange for the exams and glasses.



The procedure for referring an individual to LASH for assistance requires a completed LASH Eyeglass Assistance Request and Income Qualification form with a \$5 application fee be submitted to the LASH Sight Coordinator. The LASH Sight Coordinator will review information provided and, if client is eligible, send a referral to the local LensCrafters store with copies to client and referring club coordinator. LensCrafters will not accept an individual without this referral. The referral is valid for 30 days. If the appointment is not met within that time, a new referral will be needed.

What is Teen Court?

Teen Court is a program that offers teenage offenders an important second chance - a chance to learn from their mistake without the high cost and stigma of a criminal record. Teen Court is a real justice program run by teens for teens. Juvenile's aged 12 through 17 who have committed a misdemeanor crime appear before a jury of their peers. The crime is generally a first offense, and the respondent must admit involvement since this is a disposition (sentencing) hearing only.

Teen Court is offered as a positive experience to divert a first time teen offender away from a pattern of criminal behavior. Cases heard in Teen Court involve crimes such as shoplifting, disorderly conduct, destruction of property and possession of alcohol to name a few. In Teen Court, volunteer teens perform the roles of the prosecuting and defense attorneys, bailiff, clerk and jury. The Judge is the only adult directly involved in the court proceedings.



After careful consideration of the facts, the jury deliberates and decides upon a constructive disposition, including a minimum number of community service hours and serving on at least one and up to four teen court juries. The respondent then has 60 days to complete the disposition and have the original charge dismissed. If the disposition is not completed, the case returns to the referring agency, for formal processing. Other sanctions include attending educational programs, writing essays and apology letters, and touring the Anne Arundel County Detention Center.

The Anne Arundel County Teen Court is a cooperative effort of the County Executive, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office, Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Maryland Department of Juvenile Justice, the Anne Arundel County Police Department, and the Leadership Anne Arundel Teen Court.

Since the Teen Court's inception in January 1998, over 815 cases have come before the Teen Court. The program completion rate for offenders is around 81.78% with a recidivism rate of 10%. The Teen Court has assigned well over 20,192 community service hours to be completed by respondents. Currently the two locations being utilized by the Teen Court are the Glen Burnie and Annapolis District Court buildings.

The Severn River Lions Club continues to be an important part of the volunteer effort that keeps the Teen Court program successful. The program deals with kids that are first offenders in the juvenile justice system. The success of the program getting kids back on the right track gives the Lions a feeling of being involved in a worthwhile effort that makes a difference in young people's lives.

The program has impressed officials in other areas of the State. With the low recidivism rate mentioned above, new programs are starting up everywhere. Lions spending a couple hours serving as jury monitors will often see visitors from other jurisdictions watching the proceedings and taking new ideas back to their county.

From 6 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the District Court in Glen Burnie or Annapolis, on our assigned Wednesdays, volunteer Lions sit in on the trials then monitor and guide the deliberations of the student volunteer juries. The docket normally has five cases. There are usually at least 4 Lions attending the sessions and that allows for teams of two each to monitor the two juries.

Please contact Lion Don Rayment if you would like to attend one of this year's sessions. The next court is 16 March in Glen Burnie.

A real justice program run by teens for teens



Lions Are The Judges

Our Cub Scout Pack 688 has an annual Pinewood Derby race where wooden cars made from kits and decorated to match one of the ten themes are raced. For several years Lions have been invited to judge the entries in all of the categories. On January 9 Lions Dick Bloomquist, Bill Zelenakas, and Ollie Wittig went to Shipleys Choice School for this event. Almost four dozen derby cars were on display and the Lions set to work to pick a winner in each of the ten categories. Cars were numbered and Lions made a choice in each category and then it was time to finalize the choices. Some compromising was necessary but a final choice was made and the results given to the Cubmaster who announced the winners and gave the Lions a hearty “thank you” for helping with this event. While car judging was taking place the “race was on”. A metal electronic five lane track was set up and the race began. Cars sped down the track and crossed the finish line. The results were flashed onto an overhead screen which showed the winner and the elapsed time start to finish. Winning cars will continue to race until a final winner by Cub Scout rank is determined. It was fun interacting with the Cub Scouts and parents at this event. SRLC participates in several other pack events and will be back to do the pre ride safety check for the annual bike rodeo in May and Lions chefs will man the large grill to cook at the Pack Bridging ceremony at Lake Waterford in June. The Cubmaster expressed his appreciation to SRLC for the continued support that has been given to the pack for several years. The partnership between SRLC and Pack 688 is another example of Lions living up to the motto “We Serve.”