



# Severn River Lions Club News



PO Box 118, Severna Park, MD 21146 • [www.severnriverlions.org](http://www.severnriverlions.org)  
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### Inside This Issue:

- Camp Blaze ..... 1-2
- Scholarship Winners ..... 3
- Lions Hearing Assistance Program ..... 4
- Leadership Training ..... 5
- SWAT ..... 5
- Pack 688 Bridging ..... 6
- West Arundel Lions Club Charter Night ..... 7
- Calendar of Events ..... 8
- Member Directory ..... 9-10



Severn River Lions assist with ticket sales at the Camp Blaze Children's Fair.

## Camp Blaze 2012

The 26th annual Camp Blaze Children's Fair on Saturday, May 5 opened with near perfect weather at the Big Vanilla Fitness Center and the Severn River Lions were on hand to assist. Again this year the Lions were tasked with selling the tickets that patrons could use to buy food and refreshments from the various vendors who had set up along the parking lot.

Inside there were nearly sixty vendors and organizations who had set up displays around the large gym area. Many of these displays catered to and appealed to the younger crowd who were there in abundance with their parents. Youngsters could try their skill at bowling, get their faces painted, earn colorful balloons, or color pictures. Many of the vendors provided handouts to the crowds. A DJ from WNAV radio offered commentary and music throughout the event. Several area bands performed on stage and outside. At half hour intervals a variety of performances and demonstrations appealed to the audience who responded enthusiastically.

*Continued on page 2*



International Theme for 2011-2012  
"I Believe"



Custom made Severn River Lions trolley car from Lion George Councill Jr.'s collection. We Serve!

*Continued from front page*

Under a pop up tent near the main entry way the Lions were busy selling tickets. Leader Dick Maurer coordinated the selling efforts of Lions Bill O'Neil, Randy Roberts, Ray Smith, Catherine Violette, Chris Werth, and Ollie Wittig throughout the event.

Next door to the ticket booth Chief Engineer George Councill and gandy dancers, Pete Geis and Dale Strait manned the fifty foot train layout that quickly became a "kid magnet" for kids of all ages. Lions George's "playtoys" included a double header steam engine with two dozen cars, a diesel passenger train, and a trolley car which bore the Lions logo and the SRLC name.

Around the parking area kids got to scale the climbing wall, explore a large fire truck, speak with members of the US Army, and watch performances by a dance company and a martial arts contingent.

During the six hour event there were opportunities to speak with the attendees about the Lions Club and membership brochures and free dinner cards were given out. Lions are looking forward to being invited back to Camp Blaze again next year.



The train display proved to be a "kid magnet."



Engineer George sets up and adjusts the train cars.

## SRLC Scholarship Winners

This year's scholarship committee (Nancy Earley, Sue Parks, Chris Werth, and Ollie Wittig) was challenged when reviewing the dozen scholarship applications from Broadneck and Severna Park High Schools. For many years SRLC has given scholarship to students at these schools who have demonstrated superior academic performance over four years, have been involved in school and community activities, received good references from teachers, and have demonstrated the potential to excel in college. The scholarships are for \$1,000 per year and can be renewed three additional years if the student's situation has not changed and the club can still financially support the scholarship.

After careful review of the applications and references and some compromising, the committee selected one Broadneck student and two Severna Park students as this year's awardees.

Chosen to receive the Patrick Dionne Memorial Scholarship at Broadneck was **Eric Stephen Myers**. During his tenure Eric has taken advanced placement and honors courses and has attained a 3.04 grade point average. He has been active in the Anime Club at school and in the community he has been involved with Boy Scouts since first grade and achieved the coveted rank of Eagle Scout with palms, volunteered at My Brothers Pantry and Habitat for Humanity, has worked at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center and the county Recreation and Parks. Eric plans to enter Anne Arundel Community College and then transfer to a four year school to complete studies for a degree in business and marketing.

Two winners were selected from Severna Park this year to receive the E. Roy Shawn Scholarship. **Elizabeth Liz Breighner** is the youngest of five siblings and during her tenure at SPHS she attained a 4.06 GPA and completed nearly four dozen advanced placement and honors courses. In her "spare time" Liz was on the cheerleading squad, gymnastics team, the



Student Government, National Honor Society, and interned at the Department of Defense. She has been active in her church youth group, participated in the Appalachian Service project, Relay for Life, and the Polar Bear Plunge. Elizabeth plans to complete studies probably at Stevenson University and become a nurse practitioner upon graduation

The second recipient from SPHS is **Jodie Clouser**. She and her twin sister, Maddie, had been active in the LEO Club while at the middle school. Jodie has been an active team member of the cross-country, indoor track, and outdoor track teams and participant in the Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Gay Straight Alliance. In the community Jodie has been active in the Methodist Youth Fellowship, has volunteered at Severna Park Elementary School, and the Appalachian Service Project. Jodie enjoys swimming and has been an active member of the Severn River Swim Club. Jodie has earned a GPA of 4.29 in nearly forty advanced placement and honors courses. Jodie plans to attend Salisbury State University and pursue a degree in education.

The scholarship recipients and their parents will be invited to attend a future Lions club meeting to tell of their high school experience and college plans. SRLC can be proud of our role in assisting these outstanding young people advance in their chosen professions.

## 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.

Maybe you think that hearing aids are far too expensive for our 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 District 22A Lions eyeglass and hearing aid recycling program can be refurbished by Starkey Company for \$90 to \$160 and come with a one year warranty. In District 22A the Lions Association for Sight and Hearing (LASH) has partnered with Towson University Speech, Language, and Hearing Clinic to provide audiology services at very reasonable cost.

Still, a hearing assistance program costs more than an eyeglass program. Fortunately, the number of people needing hearing assistance is less than that needing vision assistance. Our Severn River Lions Foundation funds the cost of our hearing assistance program. In helping the deaf and hard of hearing we help people reconnect with friends, family, and people.

Interested? Know someone who would benefit from hearing aids but can't afford them? Talk to Lion Dale, our club's hearing and speech coordinator.

### **SRLC ANNUAL CLUB RETREAT**

**Saturday, June 23, 2012**

**9:00 AM to 12 Noon**

**Severna Park Health Center on B&A Boulevard**

**All SRLC Members Welcome!**

## Trained to Lead

The recent new officer training course for Lions who will be leading their clubs this year was held at Severna Park High School on June 1 and SRLC was well represented. New officer training is a required component for an annual award. After a brief introduction in the cafeteria the three dozen Lions adjourned to separate rooms for sessions that were specific to the office they will fill this Lions year. The sessions were presented by current District 22-A leaders and were interactive. Participants from at least eight clubs were encouraged to share ideas that had been successful in their clubs with others. Participants were encouraged to take these ideas back to their clubs and use them to help their clubs continue to progress.

Severn River Lions Club was well represented at the training session. Attending were Bill O'Neil—incoming King Lion, Dick Maurer—secretary, Sue Parks—treasurer, Carl Gilbert and Chris Werth—vice president, and Ollie Wittig—membership. With the support of all the members SRLC can benefit from this leadership during this Lions year.



Severna Park High School training for club officers June 2012.



Training sessions for each office were available.

## Early Morning SWAT

Chief Highway Engineer Rollins Clark's delicious muffins and the secretary's reminder email resulted in a full crew for the May highway cleanup along Ritchie Highway. Lions Dick Bloomquist, Carroll Hicks, Rhine Jager, Don Rayment, Randy Roberts, Dale Strait, Ray Smith, Chris Werth, Ollie Wittig, and Bill Zelenakas assembled at the Earleigh Heights Fire Station for instructions and a muffin treat before stepping off in teams of two to pick up trash discarded by careless motorists. Clad in bright orange vest and hats and carrying orange trash bags and pick up sticks the teams walked along the north and south bound lanes of Ritchie Highway from Rt. 10 to the Christian Church south of the fire hall. A variety of detritus

was found – empty cans and bottles, paper trash, shingles, car parts, and even animal bones from an unidentified species. The teams carefully searched for the “treasures” that the earlier email had mentioned but none were found. After about forty-five minutes the teams and their collections of litter were picked up and placed for hauling by the state highway crews, the equipment was returned, and the lions received a hearty “thank you” from KL Rollins for a job well done. If you enjoy an early morning walk and a chance to make a difference in the appearance of our community then join the team for the monthly highway cleanups that are held through October. These monthly strolls are a great way to connect with other Lions, enjoy the treats, and do a good turn. “We Serve.”



Lions Rollins Clark, Carl Gilbert, Ollie Wittig, Dick Maurer, George Council Jr. and Bill O'Neil cooking for SRLC sponsored Cub Scout Pack 688 at Lake Waterford Park. Hamburgers and hot dogs are our specialty.

## Seven Years and Counting

For the past seven years SRLC has done the cooking at Cub Scout Pack 688's annual Bridging ceremony, first at Kinder Farm Park and now at Lake Waterford Park. On June 2 the Lions arrived at the park prepared to grill so parents could take part in the Pack's Bridging ceremony which recognizes Cub Scouts who have aged out of that program and are advancing to Boy Scouts. The Cub Scouts actually march across a bridge at Lake Waterford to symbolize this advancement.

Chief Chef George Council and his large grill were set up at the Blue Jay pavilion and helpers Rollins Clark, Carl Gilbert, Dick Maurer Bill O'Neil, and Ollie Wittig began preparing hamburgers, cheeseburgers, and hot dogs to feed the hungry crowd estimated at about one-hundred-twenty.

The grill sizzled and soon platters of delicacies were plated and ready when the hungry Scouts returned. For over an hour the cooks worked tirelessly to keep the platters full. On another side table tempting appetizers and side dishes that had been prepared by the Cub Scout parents attracted the eaters and a hush fell over the crowd as food disappeared. Cubmaster John Dennison extended a hearty "Thank you" to the Lions for this effort and they were given a round of applause from the parents. The Lions promised to return again next year to grill for the Pack.

Lions have also assisted with the annual Pinewood Derby and the Bicycle Rodeo and we expect to stay actively involved with Pack 688.

**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!*

**June 28th • July 25th • August 22nd • September 26th**

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

## West Arundel Lions Five Years and Growing!

The West Arundel Lions Club celebrated its fifth year with a special Charter Night ceremony on Tuesday, June 5 and the sponsoring club, Severn River, was well represented at this event with many Lions attending that evening.

West Arundel Lions serves the western Anne Arundel area and offers a variety of services to the community. Sue Parks from SRLC has served as the Guiding Lion for the club and has helped direct the clubs growth and service during the past five years.

Attending that evening were a number of District 22-A dignitaries who challenged the club to continue to grow and serve their community.



Celebrating the 5th year of West Arundel Lions Club.

## Well Deserved Award!

The occasion was the celebration of the West Arundel Lions fifth charter night but a Lion special to that club was also recognized during the evening festivities. The service as Guiding Lion during the formative years is only one of the contributions that this Lion has made.

Lion Sue Parks was presented with a Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship that evening in recognition of her contribution as Guiding Lion, as treasurer of her home club, Severn River, and the activities she has been involved in to benefit the District. Sue has set an example for all Lions to follow in service and dedication to Lionism.

Congratulation to Lion Sue Parks on this well deserved recognition!



Lion Sue was presented a Progressive Melvin Jones award from West Arundel during the club's 5th anniversary. Lion Sue was their Guiding Lion.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

### 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
- 6/23 Club Retreat 9:00AM at the Severna Park Health Center
- 6/28 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

### JULY

- 7/3 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 7/17 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 7/25 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

### AUGUST

- 8/7 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 8/21 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 8/22 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM
- 8/25 State Fair Screening Day

### SEPTEMBER

- 9/4 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 9/18 General Meeting 6:30PM
- 9/26 Ledo's Pizza Night 5:00PM

May 1st meeting--2nd Vice District Candidate Tom Magruther (Right side) from Baltimore 40 West campaigned for election at the May convention in Salisbury.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### JUNE

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

### JULY

- Myra Payne - 7
- Bob Muchow - 16
- Bob Siska - 18
- Jack White - 18
- Dale Strait - 19

### AUGUST

- Yvonne Jackson - 2
- Chris Werth - 3
- Rollins Clark - 7
- Mike Milord - 17
- Bill Meyers - 25
- Ollie Wittig - 26
- Milum Greene - 26

### SEPTEMBER

- John Randall - 2
- Don Luce - 8
- Robert Bauman - 13
- Dave Knabel - 13
- Gordon Clement - 20
- Ray Smith - 22

