



SEVERN RIVER LIONS CLUB
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Editor Lion Bill O'Neil



September-October 2008

Trained Leaders

Every Lions Club deserves trained leaders and Severn River now has a trained cadre of officers who will motivate and lead the club in 2008-2009.

The Region I Officer Training session was held September 3 at the Annapolis Elks Lodge and was attended by **King Lion George Council, Vice Presidents Roger Knauth and Trent Kutsch, Secretary Sue Parks, Treasurer Bruce Schriener, and Membership Chair Ollie Wittig.** Officers and representatives from nearly all Region I clubs were in attendance. Additional Regional training sessions were scheduled for September 3 and 4.

Separate sessions for each leadership category were presented by several former District Governors, Tom Baines, Dick Bloomquist, Harold Boccia, and several other experienced Lions from District 22-A.

Colorful Power Point presentations and useful print materials were used to reinforce the interactive discussions during the presentations.

Lions enjoyed good food and the training session was preceded by a dinner of either steak or crab cakes prepared by the excellent Elks caterers. SRLC Lions can expect to see many of the ideas gleaned from these sessions put into practice this year as our club continues to strive for excellence in the District.

King Lion George Council Jr's Message

Fellow Lions,

We have had exciting service events at Gary's Gardens and especially at the Kinder Park Fall Festival. I would like to thank all the volunteers, setup, cooks and cleanup Lions, especially Lion Randy Roberts and Lion Dick Bloomquist who helped me cook fries and shrimp over the hot grease pots.

We now have to prepare for our Fruit Sales which start next month. Advertising is in progress with a full page ad in the Tournament of Bands event program where I presented the Trophies to over 20 winning bands. We need your help selling fruit and working the booths and passing out fruit.

I thank all the Lions and their guests who attended our PICNIC in September at the Linstead Beach. Ribs and chicken from Adams Ribs Caterer were delicious.

Please invite a Friend to our Nov. 18 meeting to learn about our Lions Club.

King Lion George

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Maryland State Fair Vision Screening

In early August, for the second year in a row, the word went out from the Cockeysville-Timonium Lions Club to District Lions requesting assistance with vision and audio screening during the ten days of the State Fair. The Severn River Lions, as always, responded whole heartedly to the call for service. The board of directors picked Saturday, August 23, to assist as a club project. Lions Rollins Clark, Chuck Horne, Roger Knauth, Trent Kutsch, Bill O'Neil, Dale Strait, Chris Werth, Ollie Wittig and scholarship winner Vera Goldberg and her father responded to the challenge. Mr Goldberg was so impressed with what he saw Lions doing he asked for a membership application. Lions Dick Bloomquist, Myra Payne and Bob Muchow weren't available on the 23rd, but worked other days. The screenings were held in the District 22C Lions Vision bus fitted with three vision screening stations and two audiometric testing stations. Severn River Lions, joined by Lions Suzette, Angelo, Sheila, and Jennifer from the West Arundel Lions Club, screened over 70 people, several of whom were urged to schedule a professional examination. Thanks, Lions, for responding in service to the needs of other.

WE SERVE AND SHARE THE FUN!



DISTRICT 22A INNER CITY PROJECT

October 2008

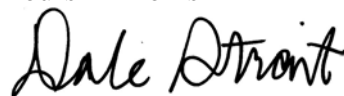
District Governor John Andrews has made it clear he considers the Inner City Project vision screening program his number one project for this year. And that is as it should be. When Helen Keller challenged the Lions of the world to join her in the crusade against preventable blindness and become Knights of the Blind she probably expected undertakings like the 22A Inner City Project would come from the fertile minds of service-directed Lions.

But this is not just a project of DG John's or of the dozen Lions involved in it so far. This is a District project one worthy of the support and commitment of every Lion who realizes that not all Americans have yet had the opportunity to live the American Dream. We, who are fortunate, didn't get to the dream by ourselves. We had lots of help along the way. There are thousands of families in the inner city struggling to provide a better life for their children so that one day they might dream. I can't begin to tell you the satisfaction and pleasure one gets out of seeing preschool, elementary, and middle school children in the poorest of neighborhoods who are eager to learn. Unfortunately many will have very difficult time learning because they can't see the blackboard or, perhaps, not see the fine print in their books. Too often the exuberance and promise of preschool and elementary are snuffed out because learning has been too difficult. Not because of attitude or aptitude but because of an easily corrected disability - poor vision. Lions, this is what we do. We help the disadvantaged to see well. We prevent children from losing their depth perception or vision in one eye. This is what the Inner City Project does and has been doing and, with your help, will continue to do.

The Inner City Project had its beginning over three years ago when Lions were asked to assist with vision screening in an elementary/middle school in the Homewood area of Baltimore. There are now 13 schools in the Homewood and Paterson Park areas in the program. For the past three years concerned Lions have worked to overcome an all too common deficiency in the inner city environment: lack of proper vision care. Children in these schools have vision defect rates much higher than the general population. Vision screening of preschool through middle school children and free eye exams and eyeglasses are being provided by Lions in these 13 public schools in some of the poorest and most dangerous Baltimore neighborhoods. Almost 2,100 children have been screened and over 560 have been provided free eye exams and eyeglasses through the Lions/LensCrafters Gift of Sight partnership. So far, a half dozen Lions clubs and a dozen or so Lions have been bringing this life changing gift to the wonderful kids we find in the inner city. This year we want to expend the program to help even more children. Lions, we can do it.

Won't you become a Knight of the Blind and join DG John in this crusade? Please make a concerted effort to encourage your club, and the clubs in your Zone, to participate in this program. **This is a rewarding, hands-on, up close and personal opportunity to change a child's future.** Please encourage all Lions to become a Knight, either through participation or financial support. Please contact me if you'd like to learn more or join in.

Yours in Lionism



Severn River Lions Club Picnic

For the 70 plus Lions, spouses, and guests who attended the annual SRLC picnic at Linstead Beach on September 16 it was an enjoyable evening of fun, food and fellowship. The delightful late summer evening on the beautiful Severn River began with drinks and appetizers, lots of conversation as attendees renewed acquaintances, and the opportunity to meet several guests from Delaware and Washington state who attended with their family or friends. The setting and the weather could not have been more perfect for the picnic. A cool breeze coming off the water kept the bugs at bay and Mother Nature treated us to a spectacular sunset which tinted the western sky in shades of red, pink and orange as the sun dipped behind the clouds and below the horizon.

KL George began the “formal” part of the picnic with the customary Lions opening and welcomed all the spouses and guests. An announcement that “dinner is served” garnered applause and the line quickly formed. The caterer, Adam’s Ribs, had prepared a choice menu of garden salad, pasta, cole slaw, baked beans, barbecued chicken and ribs, and desserts. The dozen tables were quickly filled and sounds of contented eaters could be heard. The real chicken and ribs eaters-the ones who picked up the meat in their hands- stood out from the “knife and fork” crowd and the HandiWipes provided were put to good use. Most diners made second trips to the serving line and the caterer was kept very busy all evening long.

The resident Lottery vendors, Wayne and Randy, convinced everyone to contribute to their favorite charity by buying 50-50 raffle tickets and the larger than usual crowd promised a bigger share of the profits. Tonight’s lucky winner was Maryke Meyers.

KL George reminded Lions of several pending events, the vision-hearing screening on Saturday, September 20 at the Annapolis Senior Center, the SWAT highway clean up also on September 20, and the brewfest/membership function on September 27 at Bill Z’s place.

As darkness descended Lions assisted with cleanup and table storage and another enjoyable evening came to a close. Special thanks to Lion Nancy Burns for coordinating the arrangements for the picnic, Ken Tschantre and his capable set-up crew for preparing the pavilion, and bartender, Pete Geis, for providing a selection of libations, and to all the Lions, spouses, and special guests who attended this annual gala.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
HTTP://MY.CALENDARS.NET/SRLC	
OCTOBER 11	KINDER PARK FAIR COOKING
OCTOBER 14	BOARD MEETING
October 14	Teen Court Glen Burnie
SPECIAL EVENT	
OCTOBER 18	EYEGLASS SCREENING
OCTOBER 18	HIGHWAY PICKUP
OCTOBER 21	GENERAL MEETING
OCTOBER 29	TEEN COURT ANNAPOLIS
NOVEMBER 4	NO MEETING ELECTION DAY
NOVEMBER 11	BOARD MEETING
SPECIAL SRLC MEETING	
NOVEMBER 18	BRING A FRIEND
NOVEMBER 19	TEEN COURT ANNAPOLIS
NOVEMBER 22	FRUIT SALE
DECEMBER 2 SRLC CHRISTMAS PARTY	
December 17	Teen Court Annapolis
December 20	FRUIT SALE

The Severn River Lions Club celebrated a very special 88th Birthday on September 3 during our club meeting for Lion Jack Randall who still attends all our meetings and helps with service events. Happy Birthday Lion Jack from all your Lion Friends. Thank you Lion Nancy for the beautiful birthday cake.



Lions Clubs In Tandem

It was an example of two Lions Clubs joining forces in a project to benefit the senior segment of the community. Lions from Annapolis and Severn River joined forces on September 20 to offer vision and hearing screening services to the large crowds that gathered at the Annapolis Senior Activity Center for the 7th annual Caregivers Wellness Day. Many vendors and services for seniors and their families were available during the six hour gathering. Several seminars on nutrition, aging, Medicare, relaxation, and senior activities were available throughout the day. Early morning coffee and pastries were available and at mid-day Grauls Market catered a delicious luncheon for attendees and providers

Annapolis Lions **Steve Smith** and **PDG Bob Paxson** used the Titmus screener to check the far and near vision of the seniors who visited. Severn River Lions **Sue Parks**, **Dale Strait**, and **Ollie Wittig** used the GSI audiometer to check for potential hearing disorders. Nearly three dozen seniors visited the Lions area for one or both of the free screenings.

It was also a great opportunity to talk to people about Lions and tell the attendees what services Lions offer in the community. Several individuals mentioned that they had been citrus customers of one or the other clubs and always looked forward to getting the fresh grapefruit and oranges each year. It was also an opportunity to do some recruiting for potential members and one gentleman expressed interest in visiting SRLC in the near future.

When the sign up sheet for the next community health fair is circulated be sure to sign and take part in these worthwhile community service activities.

Photos from Gary's Garden Pit Beef service event





More Picnic Photos



Photos from the Kinder Park Fest – by PDG Bloomquist





