



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

April 16, 2018

Program

Lion Steve Murphree introduced our speaker, Mr. Drew Green, Director of the Cullman County Museum; he spoke about history related events for the Alabama Bicentennial, including walking Cullman history tours, each Saturday in April.



(L to R) Lion Steve Murphree, Mr. Drew Green, and Lion President Bill Ruehl.

Drew explained that these leisurely walking tours begin and end at the museum, starting at 10AM, rain or shine, and they are free. Your guide, usually a different museum historian each time, will walk with you along the streets and alleys of downtown Cullman ... stopping and re-telling tale after tale. Stops will include many, many landmarks, places of worship, historic architecture, along with rarely discussed Cullman legends and mysteries. This year these tours will tie directly with the Alabama Bicentennial celebration. Taking one of these tours is a golden opportunity for you and your family to learn about the core origins of Cullman, all the way to the present day.

The Cullman County Museum is a historical museum located in downtown on the corner of Arnold St. and 2nd Ave. N.E. It is housed in a replica of the home of Col. John G. Cullmann, the founder of Cullman, which, in its early years, was known as “the German colony” of Alabama. The museum, which opened in 1973 during the town's centennial, collects and preserves items that illustrate life in Cullman's past, including the area's natural history and its Native American and German settlers. It features many interactive displays, featuring different historical eras. For example, there is a special display on Union Colonel Streight's 1863 raid through our part of the State as he matched wits against Confederate General Nathan Forrest. Guess who came out on top?

Mr. Green also invited us to attend the inaugural grand opening of the Alabama Bicentennial Traveling Exhibit on April 19th at the Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State (located at 801 Main Street, NW { US 31 S, before you get to Section Line Rd} in Hanceville). This exhibit, titled, “Making Alabama,” focuses on the State's history, culture and geography over the past 200 years, and showcases the major moments and decisions that shaped Alabama into the state it is today. “Making Alabama” looks back at the State's origins in the 1700s and tracks its evolution to the present day. It tells that story through an exhibit that incorporates interactive displays for information, as well as teaching resources. One highlight of the collection is the gown worn by former Alabama first lady Jamelle Folsom, which



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is on loan to the Evelyn Burrow Museum from the Alabama Department of Archives and History. Another display shows departed-Lion Chester Freeman's WWII army uniform. Drew noted that Lion Freeman spent 400 days either on the front lines, or behind enemy lines as a spy. Furthermore, this exhibit is scheduled to visit all 67 counties in the state by the time the tour ends in November 2019. Take the time to soak up a little Cullman and Alabama history through these museums and events – share and impress your friends and relatives with that knowledge.

Other Business

Although it was not mentioned at the meeting, our Club provided \$125 for a remote space heater for an indigent handicapped girl in Vinemont. The action was taken following a special request from the girl's social worker.

2018 Cullman County Fair Queen Contestants



(L-R) Chrissi Smith, Good Hope * Caty Hoffpauir, West Point * Angelina Wallis, Fairview * Desmarie Moore, Cold Springs * Albany Douglas, Vinemont * Abi Long, Hanceville * Eryn Rainwater, Cullman Lili Harris, Holly Pond

Cullman County Fair Queen Contestants had an orientation meeting at the All-Steak, following our Club's meeting tonight.

Lion Jim Walker is on dialysis. Lions Ed Henke and Mariman Pope are having bouts with pain and weakness.

A new dormitory will be dedicated at the Foundry Farm at 2:00 pm on April 22nd.

Our Club's Officer Installation and dinner will be held June 4th. The venue is yet to be determined.

Lion Randy Kraft has Alabama/Auburn football game with motel room raffle tickets for sale at \$10 each. Proceeds support the Lions High School Leadership program.

The Club has received LCIF raffle tickets. They are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

The MD-34 annual State convention will be held in Guntersville April 27th through April 29th.

The President met briefly with the Lion of the Year and Chester Freeman Award committee members.

A BOD meeting was held.

Upcoming Programs and Events

April 27: Dr. Susan Patterson, Superintendent of Cullman City Schools.

April 27-29: MD 34 Convention in Guntersville.

Tale Twister Input

If you need something special or to report a correction in the *Tale Twister*, see Lions Carey Thompson or Don Smith at the meetings. Lion Carey can be reached at 256-739-0580 (H) or 256-426-3207 (C). Lion Don can be reached at 256-737-7433 (H) or 256-426-7722 (C).