



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

April 9, 2018

Program

Lion Javon Daniel introduced our speaker, Ms. Nancy Bryant, Assistant Director of Cullman Caring for Kids (CCK), who most appropriately for National “Child Abuse Awareness” month”, talked to us about that subject. CCK’s motto going into this month is, “Every Child Deserves a Happy Childhood;” along with that, Nancy declared that it takes everyone to make it happen.



(L to R) Lion Javon Daniel, Ms. Nancy Bryant, and Lion President Bill Ruehl.

Ms. Bryant began with some sobering statistics, related to child abuse: In Cullman county 205 children are in foster care and 1014 confirmed child abuse reports were filed in the last year. 60% of the time, even though child abuse of some form was the true cause of death, it is not listed as such on death certificates. Last year 28 children were confirmed as having been killed in Alabama due to child abuse. Nationally, 5 children die every day from child abuse, and another 6 children commit suicide – that’s the only way they know out of their situation. Every year 1,850 die

from child abuse. 1 in 3 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be molested before the age of 17.



Ms. Nancy Bryant with her son-in-law, Lion Casey Smith.

She reminded us that often, abused children have been threatened and are afraid to say anything about it. Therefore, it is important for everyone to recognize the signs of possible child abuse and say something to teachers or law enforcement personnel. Signs are withdrawal, depression, bed wetting, eating problems, self-destructive behaviors, strange bruises, a child saying something is wrong, etc. Abuse can take the form of neglect or physical, emotional, or sexual abuse.

Nancy spoke in some detail about the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program. It is a volunteer-powered network of committed people from all walks of life who step in to help kids who have become trapped in the court and child-welfare maze, spending their childhood moving from one temporary shelter to another. These volunteers are appointed by a judge to speak for the best interests of the child; they recommend the best



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possible outcome for an abused or neglected child's future. They review records, research information and talk to everyone involved – social workers, attorneys, judges, parents, teachers, family members, and the children themselves. The ultimate goal of the CASA volunteer is to help ensure that everyone of these kids can live in a safe, permanent home -- whether this means helping to make a connection with adoptive parents or safely reuniting the child with parents or relatives. Maybe a Lion will consider volunteering for such a meaningful cause, directly impacting a child's life and perhaps for generations to come. Call Ms. Candace Lingo, 256-739-1111 to find out how.



The crew at blustery Saturday's Shred-a-thon. Lion Jim Walker is at CRMC and improving.

Other Business

Elections were held for our Lions Club Officers for 2018 – 2019. The following Lions will assume these positions starting in July:

- President -- Mike Ponder**
- 1st Vice President -- Andrew Manning**
- 2nd Vice President -- Javon Daniel**
- 3rd Vice President -- Austin Monk**
- Secretary -- Don Smith**
- Treasurer -- Jerry Bonner**
- Lion Tamer -- Dave Gratz**
- Tail Twister -- Greg Young**
- Director 2 Years -- Milford Parish**
- Director 2 Years -- Cody Smith**
- Membership Committee – George Krigbaum**

A dozen Lions supported Saturday's Shred-a-Thon. Cullman's Better Business Bureau sent us a "Thank You" note and let us know that this event would not have been successful without our Club's help. They also gave the Club a check for us to apply to other community charities.

A Thank You was received for our donation to Victim's Services.

The Fair Board met.

There will be New Member training next week, planned by Lion Scott Waldrep.

The President reminded the Club about the upcoming MD-34 State convention which will be held in Guntersville April 27th through April 29th. See registration form on page 3. April 12th is the last day to register.

Upcoming Programs and Events

April 16: TBD.

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).



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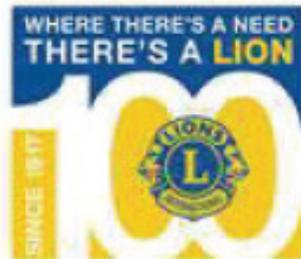


Lions International 3rd VP Judge Haynes Townsend will be keynote speaker at the MD 34 Annual Convention.

**MD 34
ANNUAL
CONVENTION**
April 27, 28, 29, 2018
Guntersville State Park Lodge
(256) 571-5440

Convention Registration Due By April 12, 2018

Lion _____
Position in Club _____
Badge Name _____
Mailing Address _____
Phone # _____
Lions Club _____



Lion Hospitality Book:

Registration and Meals # ___ @ \$115.00 _____

Food Allergies: _____

Individual Prices:

Registration # ___ @ \$25.00 _____ Donation of \$1-\$5 for Hunger service project \$ _____

Friday Night Western Party # ___ @ \$35.00 _____

Saturday Lunch # ___ @ \$20.00 _____

Saturday Banquet # ___ @ \$40.00 _____

Entree Choice Prime Rib (medium) _____ Vegetarian _____

Chicken Parmesan _____

Total \$ for registration and donation for Hunger project \$ _____ (mail with registration form)

Make Check Payable to:

MD 34 Annual Convention

Mail to: Lion Howard Rew

28164 J. Yarbrough Road

Athens, AL 35613

Questions to Larry Bagley 256-486-3491 or

ContactUs@GuntersvilleLionsClub.com

1. The hospitality book is \$115.00 and includes 3 meals; the Friday night meal and party, Saturday luncheon, and Saturday banquet. Parking and WiFi are free, breakfast is an additional charge. Purchase of full Hospitality Book reflects a reduction of \$6.00 in fee. All attendees must pay a fee, and doing so by April 12th guarantees a meal; funds must accompany registration form.
2. Lions have to make their own hotel reservation by March 27th. Room rates are \$103-\$169 (includes fees and tax) and drops to \$99-\$165 when reserving more than one night; use code 8368. Cabins are available for 1-8 people and are priced separately. Camping is \$18-\$28 depending on site. Please identify yourself as a Lion when reserving your room. The Guntersville State Park Lodge number is (256) 606-8821.
3. Delegate Voting: Only delegates of clubs in good standing may vote. Good standing for these purposes means those clubs which do not have accounts payable to Multiple District 34 or Lions Club International in a cumulative excess of \$50.00 and are not on Status Quo. Please submit your club-approved delegates to your District Governor prior to Convention.
4. Please wear western attire for the Friday night party, there will be prizes awarded based on costumes!
5. Please bring club banners to display in the meeting hall. Each club is asked to bring a door prize.