



# The Tale Twister

## Cullman Lions Club

August 12, 2019

### Program

Lion Randy Kraft introduced our program speaker, Col. Ken Brown, USAF (RET). He is a Viet Nam vet (his military resume would take up half this newsletter), a trustee in the Cullman Elks Lodge, and the chairman of the Elks / Veterans committee, which is planning a Cullman's Veteran's Day Celebration. This celebration was the subject of his presentation tonight. The event is planned for Saturday, November 2, 2019 at Sportsman Lake (He noted that this date is also a bye-date for Alabama football). Due to ongoing construction, the Cullman Airport was not available for this event this year; last year's celebration drew 17,000 visitors. Money is raised each year for this event from civic organization such as our Club, the Cullman City Council, the Cullman County Commission, and the business community.



Lion President Andrew Manning presenting a token of appreciation to our speaker, Col. Ken Brown.

There are several great events scheduled, including a free concert by the Cullman

Community Band; "Letters from Home," a free USO style show; free lunch for veterans and spouses provided by the Elks Club; military equipment displays, including a full sized Huey helicopter display; a Civil War history camp with a live cannon firing every hour-on-the-hour; and a free patriotic concert by the "Madison Rising Band" in the Fair Ground Theater. This band is a hard-hitting rock band which gained national recognition for their rocked-out rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner" it has been featured at such events as NFL games, the West Lawn of the Capitol, and many corporate and veteran events at home and abroad; it has opened shows for stars such as Lynyrd Skynyrd, Trace Adkins, and Toby Keith. Our Club has about half its membership who are veterans, but this event is one that everyone, not just vets, will likely enjoy. Admission is free, and parking is free.

Col. Brown also mentioned a coat & tie dinner event that will take place at the Civic Center on the night before Saturday's celebration. Twenty-five local, distinguished, combat veterans, who are true heroes, will be honored and a short description of their experiences will be made. Ken related dramatic anecdotes that he already knew about several of these heroes, one of whom is 99 years old and is still fit enough for 3 rounds of golf a week at Terri-Pines. This vet flew 40 bomber missions in WWII in Europe and was a fighter pilot against in the Japanese theater; then he flew cargo-plane missions in Viet Nam. Most of these honored



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veterans are anticipated to be at the celebration on Saturday.

no one has stepped forward. Lion Lummie is hampered by continuing physical ailments, resulting from a fall he suffered several month ago.

The schedule for the Sportsman Lake event is as follows:

8:30 – Venue opens. USO serving free coffee & donuts.

9:00 – Opening ceremony (prayer, National anthem, & VIP introductions.

9:15 – Patriotic music by the Cullman Community Band (Pavilion).

10:00 – Free concert by “Letters from Home” (Pavilion).

11:30 – Free lunch to vets & spouses. Food vendors to serve the public. Music by AFVN DJ.

1:00 – Free concert by “Madison Rising Band” (Fairgrounds Theater).

3:00 – Venue closes.

### Upcoming Programs and Events



**State Senator Garlan Gudger Jr.**

August 19: Alabama State Senator Garlan Gudger.

### Other Business

No meeting will be held September 2, due to Labor Day.

The Peinhardt Living Farm has requested that the Club help them with parking the public on their Family Day open house on Saturday, October 19.

We had thank-you notes for funding support from ‘Cullman Caring for Kids,’ from “Distinguished Young Women,” from “Boson Buddies Foundation,” from the “Agriplex,” and from “Victims Services of Cullman.”

Last week Lion Lummie Speakman made an appeal for a volunteer to assume his duties in reporting Lion Information; so far,



**City of Good Hope Mayor Jerry Bartlett**

August 26: Mayor of Good Hope, Mr. Jerry Bartlett.

September 2, 2019: No meeting. Labor Day.



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Phyllis Little

Photo: Fox6 News

September 9: Ms. Phyllis Little, Executive Director of Cullman County EMA.

October 3<sup>rd</sup> (Thurs), thru 12<sup>th</sup> (Sat):  
**Cullman County Fair.**

October 19: Parking support to Peinhardt Living Farm Family Day.



Ms. Susan Eller

September 16: Ms. Susan Eller, Project Coordinator for Cullman County Economic Development.

### **.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).