



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

August 28, 2023
Program

Lion Ron Seybold introduced our speaker tonight, Ms. Rhonda McDavid, Executive Director SE Diabetes Education Services, Camp Seale Harris. Ms. McDavid began by telling of her first contact with anyone who had diabetes. It turned out to be her own son who was diagnosed when he was four years old.



(L to R) Lion Ron Seybold, Ms. Rhonda McDavid, and Jerry Bonner smile for the camera.

Rhonda noted that our Club has been a sponsor of Camp Seale Harris for many years, and that Lion Ron and Lion Jerry Bonner have worked as volunteers with her during a week-end camp session. She reminded us that children cannot prevent this auto-immune disease, and they can not get a transplant. It's just something that they have to live with for the rest of their lives. She first heard of Camp Seale Harris when her son came home with its flyer and said that he wanted to go to this camp. She agreed to take him and that was where she was first introduced to Lions, who were helping at the camp. She found out about Lions other projects and its reputation as "Knights of the Blind, and about its partnership with Camp Seale Harris to help

children with diabetes, the number one cause of acquired blindness. Kids coming to the camp learn to be more consistent in checking their blood sugar – how to conquer carbohydrates – how to calculate how much insulin they're going to need. And for the first time, see 100 other kids just like them. Doing all those things before every meal, before every activity, before they go to bed, in the middle of the night, and they don't feel like they're the only one. All of a sudden, they've got a tribe. They realize that they can play football, be in the band, and still go to Boy Scout Camp, even if a nurse is not there. They learn that it's going to be all right ! And the family learns the same thing.

Ms. McDavid showed a video that included many glowing testimonies from children who had participated in Camp Seal Harris Camp events. They explained how it encourages and empowers children with diabetes and their families to live well. Rhonda explained that the way most kids find out about the camp is through a brochure from their doctor's office. Also, every child diabetes patient at Children's Hospital is mailed one of these brochures. There is more than a single camp. In Alabama the organization is working to have a diabetes camp within two hours of anyone. Camps are scheduled year-round, with most individual kids' camp in the summer and with family camps in the fall and winter, along with one-day community camp programs. The range of duration for the camps goes from weeklong during the summer to weekend camps for families. They are also several overnight camps.



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This was a very informative and inspiring program presented by Ms. McDavid.

Other Business

Lion Gary Murphree is now at home after his stay for rehab at Woodland. Lion Javon Daniel is still having issues from his oral surgery and asked that we pray for him.

BOD meeting is scheduled for Sept 11th. You may email any topic for discussion to Lion Scott Starosta or Lion Craig Gadow beforehand to be added to the agenda.

Lion Sight is looking for volunteers on September 20th and November 15th from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Good Samaritan Health Clinic in Cullman.

There was a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Victoria's Hope this past Tuesday, August 29th at 11:00 AM. Several Lions were in attendance. We had the founder of this charity organization a couple of months ago as the speaker at a Club meeting on May 15th, and we have supported its work. It is located on US 287, west of I-65, just past the Dollar General store.



(L to R) Lions Brian Spaeth, Milford Parrish, Charlie Powell, Mrs. April Bowen German (founder), and Don Scott.

Lion Frank Odell held new member roundtable session # 2 after tonight's meeting.

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Our Club meetings are being recorded and can be seen live, or you may view past meetings at the following Facebook web site:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1106236123576541/?ref=share>. Call Lion Craig Gadow at 256-736-8361 if you need help getting to this site.

Upcoming Programs and Events

September 11: Lion Barry Willingham, Cullman's Revenue Commissioner, will speak.



Lion Barry Willingham
Cullman County Revenue Commissioner



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September 14:



November 6: Ms. Renie Bright, 1st Vice District Governor will speak.

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).

See Club Committee assignments on the next page.

September 30: Fair Parade

October 5 – 14: Cullman County Fair.



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1st VP Jim Burke Committees

Committees	Chair	Co-Chair	Members
Diabetes	Javon Daniel	Jason Tielking	
Fair Concessions	David Bussman		
Finance & Community	Don Smith	Jerry Bonner	
Fish & Ham	Carey Thompson	Frank Odell	
Membership	Gary Murphree	David Bussman	Dewayne Wilson
Program	Sam Roberts	Randy Craft	Chris Robinson
Mop & Broom	Richard White	Dave Gratz	
Sight	Bill Ruehl	Steve Cartee	

2nd VP Delane Ray Committees

Committees	Chair	Co-Chair	Members
Area Lion's Liason	Jerry Bonner	Craig Gadow	
Constitution & Bylaws	Bradley Williar	Champ Crocker	
House & Food	Dennis Berse	Fred Osborn	David Bussman
Member Info	Charlie Powell	Dave Gratz	
Song Leader	Richard White	Chris Robinson	
Youth Leo's	Jeff Lawson	Sam Roberts	

3rd VP Jeff Lawson Committees

Committees	Chair	Co-Chair	Members
Tail Twister	Richard White	Richard Gurley	
Fair Parade	Steve Murphee	Barry Willingham	
	Charlie Childers		
Lions Branch Liaison	Dennis Burse	Ron Seybold	
Publicity	Sam Roberts	Charlie Powell	
Communication & Web	Sam Roberts	Charlie Powell	
New Member Orientation	Frank Odell	George Krigbaum	David Bussman