



# The Tale Twister

## Cullman Lions Club

December 11, 2023

### Program

Lion Jerry Bonner introduced Past Lions International Director, Lion Jerome Thompson, who spoke about the Lions Quest program. LCIF's Lions Quest program is an evidence-based social and emotional learning program with an already established series of progressing classes. These classes are built especially for at-risk, abused, and neglected children to acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions; and to set, and achieve goals, developing feeling and showing empathy for others, establishing positive relationships, and making responsible decisions. The absence of such a program paints a stark picture. Studies have shown that sixty percent of these at risk children die 20 years earlier than the norm. 700,000 children will stand before judges this year; every day 14,000 kids are suspended from school; and every 5 minutes, 25 kids are placed in foster homes.



Lion Jerome Thompson speaking to us earnestly about Lions Quest.

The Lions Quest program can accommodate children from kindergarten through the 12<sup>th</sup>

grade. It is designed to create learning, based on the needs of all students in an environment in which no one is an outsider because everyone is needed, valued, and important. It seeks to involve parents, community volunteer-mentors, and existing community child-focused organizations, judicial court system, and law enforcement organizations.

In the past Lions have tried to persuade teachers to run the program, but teachers tend to be already overworked and under-paid; thus, this approach, alone, has not worked very well.

When the courts are involved, instead of juvenile detention, children can be sentenced to probation of attending the Lions Quest classes offered by this program. Kids who complete the program rarely continue to break the law, and most continue to be successful adults. Lion Jerome told of his moving experiences when he taught Lion Quest classes and functioned as a mentor.

We had several of our Lions who asked questions and expressed an interest in moving the program forward in Cullman. Lion President Chris Brooks stated that Lion Jerome would participate in the BOD meeting tonight to offer more specifics toward implementing the program. The Lions Quest program has the potential to be a great asset to our community. A big challenge will be having enough class leaders and mentors to keep such a program up and running, long term.

### Other Business

Lion Tom Pfeifer paid a visit to Lion David Grantz in room 212 at the Cullman Health & Rehab Center. Lion Dave is mobile -- out of bed



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with a special boot and a walker. He told Lion Tom that he is scheduled to be released on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> and expects to be dancing again in a couple of weeks after that!!

On Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, Lions from our Club were on hand at the fairgrounds to transport wreaths for fallen veterans to the Cullman Public Cemetery.



**Cullman Lions at fairgrounds preparing one of several loads of wreaths for a trip to the Cemetery.**

This Saturday, Dec. 16, at 10AM, there will be a ceremony honoring our Fallen Heroes at the Cullman Public Cemetery, followed by the placing of 900 wreaths on their gravesites. Athelia Gibbs is asking for assistance with unboxing and fluffing the wreaths up. She plans to get there around 7 so any time beforehand would be greatly appreciated. She will probably need help in placing the wreaths, also. Nine-hundred sounds like a big number, especially if help is shorthanded.

### Upcoming Programs and Events

December 18 : The Fair Appreciation Celebration will be held at Cotton Creek (417

3rd Avenue SW) on December 18th at 5:30 PM. **Coat & tie attire.** The Cotton Creek venue spans the creek, catty-cornered behind the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church at the corner of 3rd Avenue SW and 5<sup>th</sup> Street SW – it's a great venue. Lion Charlie Childers says we should expect the largest crowd we've had in years.

December 25 and January 1:- no meetings due to Christmas & New Year's holiday.

January 8: TBD.

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.

### 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.**



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### 1<sup>st</sup> 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	

### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	

### 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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