



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

December 4, 2023

Program

Lion Jeff Lawson introduced our speaker tonight, City Police Public Relations Officer, Sgt. Adam Clark, a 25-year veteran of Cullman's Police force. His presentation to the Club focused on the Police Department's project, "Shop with a Cop."



Lion Jeff Lawson.



Cullman Police Officer Adam Clark explains "Shop with a Cop."

Sgt. Clark summarized this "Shop with a Cop" program saying that each year he and volunteers from the Cullman Police Department and elsewhere take about 16 local indigent children on a shopping trip through Walmart,

allowing each child to spend between \$300 and \$500 on anything they want for Christmas, clothes, toys or whatever; if a child want to get a present for a grandparent, for instance, that is taken into consideration, possibly raising the spending limit. The ages of the children can range from infant to high school age. Funds come from charitable organizations such as our Club to businesses to individuals.

Recommendations for specific children to participate each year usually come from two of our local charity organizations: Margret-Jean Jones organization and Brook's Place. The has only been one instance when a child was selected more than one year. If a selected child has brothers and/or sisters, an effort is made to include all the children from that family. Families of selected children are informed, and they are advised that no presents should be returned for cash. Also, Walmart cooperates in this regard by specifically marking any receipts for this project such that any purchased items are not allowed for return. This program helps greatly with police relations within the community and provides many indigent children with an experience they will treasure for the rest of their lives.

Other Business

Before call-to-order, tonight, two of our Lions, Dennis Berse & Fred Osborne paid a visit to Lion David Grantz, who is still in rehab, with a heaping plate of great food from our chef, Mr. Freddy Day, featuring tonight's menu. Lion Dave continues to improve.

Lion President Chris Brooks read several thank-you notes from Good Hope Public Cemetery for funding towards a badly needed stone-faced retaining wall, Leader Dogs for the Blind (they



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have 400 puppies now being raised as leader-dogs), Unsheltered (which reports that they have most of the property pre-construction & utilities components completed and will be starting the first on many tiny-homes to be completed on its property for indigent housing), Victim Services, Joe Helms Eye Clinic, Camp Seal Harris (which hosted 693 families & diabetic kids for training & diabetic information last year), and the North-Alabama Agri-plex (which is hosting an open-house on Dec. 15, Noon-3PM, RSVP at 256-297-1044).



Lion President Chris holds up poster showing Blind-Leader Dog Graduates, Class of 2023.

Lion Frank Odell, Chairman of the New Member Orientation Committee, recognized 4 Lions who recently completed his latest series of new-members-roundtable-discussions/presentations which provide insight as to how our Club operates. Each of these newer Lions received a Cullman Lions coffee mug. Great job, Lions Frank Odell & George Krigbaum (Co-Chairman).



Properly oriented Lions with their mugs: (L to R) Lions George Krigbaum (Co-Chairman), Claude Clay, Scott Starosta, Jeff Lawson, Steve Rogers, and Frank Odell (Chairman).

On another note, Lion Frank mentioned that his wife dragged him along to one of the Share Club's "Tour of Christmas Homes" (tickets are \$20). One of the homes he visited was that of Lion Tyler Frost. On prominent display in one of the bedroom closets was a pressed Lions vest (good publicity). Lion Tyler explained that his home previously belonged to the late Lion Clomer Pruitt (who at one time authored this very newsletter) and his basement has a wall full of Lion Pruitt's Lion plaques and other paraphernalia from the 70's, 80's, and 90's.



Lion Tyler Frost with Lion Frank Odell.



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

Upcoming Programs and Events

December 11. Past Lions International Director, Lion Jerome Thompson will be our speaker for the Lion's Quest Project presentation. Also, Lion Richard White has



Past Lions International Director, Lion Jerome Thompson.

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 1st Baptist Church at the corner of 3rd Avenue SW and 5th 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.



The Tale Twister

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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