



# The Tale Twister

## Cullman Lions Club

January 21, 2019

### Program

Steve Singleton introduced our speaker, Ms. Helen Cary, Director of Two Shoes, a non-profit charity organization. Ms. Cary founded this organization 12 years ago. She recounted how, after growing up with 13 years of Catholic schools and wearing saddle oxford shoes, only, during that period -- one of the first things she did, when she was able to earn her own money, was to begin buying the different shoes that that she had been dreaming about. In later life, when she had been looking for a way to give back to the less fortunate in our community, Helen was inspired in watching Oprah Winfrey's show and seeing the what someone else had done to help the needy in giving pajamas to the needy. Helen had an epiphany about combining her love of shoes and her desire to help people. She has said, "I just felt that God had laid it on my heart to start this organization. And in so many ways,



**President Lion Mike Ponder presents Helen Cary with a token of appreciation for her speaking presentation this night.**

this organization has been a wonderful blessing to me."

The board members of Two Shoes include the following Members: Mr. Rod Cantrell, Pastor Don Strandlund, Dr. Bruce Lee, Ms. Ellen Robertson, Dr. Paula & Dr. Josh Robinson, Mr. Page Williams, Mr. Danny Willingham, and our own Lion Doug Doggett. The organization has provided shoes in communities across 5-states: Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Civic organization such as our own Lions Club help to fund the organization. The Two Shoes board members also contribute funds. One of their big fund-raisers is a charity ticket sale at Belks; \$5 Two Shoes tickets are sold at the door that are counted as \$10-off of Belks merchandise.

Ms. Cary says that most of the shoes, given-away, are arranged through our DHR, Child Welfare Office. Others come through word-of-mouth from others, such as teachers in the community. Helen hand-delivers many of the shoes directly to the individual. Lion Chris Robinson suggested to Ms. Cary that she contact Lion Javon Daniel because of his relationship with "Cullman Caring for Kids" for others, locally, that would benefit from Two Shoes.

Helen runs the organization's operation from her own house. She buys most of the shoes from Walmart or wherever she spots a sale. She says she has to have the



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child's age, shoe size, and whether it's male or female; sometimes she takes particular style requests. Ms. Cary is an inspiring example of what just one dedicated person, with a vision to help her community, can accomplish

will be held on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Lion Austin Monk is in-charge of taking your ticket sale proceeds.

### Other Business

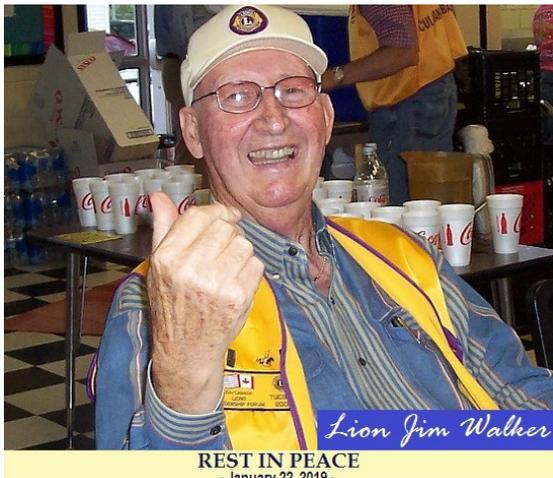
Lion Jim Walker has passed away after coming under hospice care. His funeral arrangements are as follows:

Visitation: Cullman Heritage - Friday, Jan 25, 6:00 pm thru 8:00 pm.

Funeral Service: St. John's Church - Saturday, Jan 26, 1:00 pm.



Tale Twister Lion Greg Young conducts his version of "Jeopardy" with contestants, Lions Dennis Berse and Ricky Peek. Lion Greg's "correct" answers were not easy to guess. For example, when he asked, "Why do relatives visit you?", the answer, that Lion Greg was seeking, was, "Spanish dancing!"



### Upcoming Programs and Events

Jan 28: TBD.

Feb 18: No meeting. Eat across the street in support of the empty bowls dinner.

Mar 9: Fish and Ham Dinner at the Cullman Middle School cafeteria.

### Tale Twister Input

Lion Mariman Pope was visited a couple of days ago by Lion Austin Monk. Lion Austin reports that Lion Mariman has had significant progress due to changes in his medication. Lion Morris Mangum had eye surgery last week.

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).

Lions were provided with a set of tickets to sell for our Fish and Ham Dinner, which