



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

May 4, 2026

Program

Lion Randy Kraft introduced Ms. Allison Bright, CEO of the Cullman Power Board, as our speaker. She was 1st in her class at Jemison High School and has a degree in electrical engineering, graduating Cum Laude at Auburn. She has 3 kids.



Lions Delane Ray and Randy Kraft flank our speaker, Ms. Allison Bright, CEO of The Cullman Power Board. Her presence definitely “brightens” what would otherwise have been a rather dull photo.

Ms. Bright explained that the Cullman Power Board is a separate division of Cullman Utilities, which also provides water for the city of Cullman. This arrangement has been in effect since 1951 which will celebrate its 75th anniversary sometime in August. Today the utility serves over 8,800 customers. The Utilities Board owns and operates the electric distribution systems and purchases electric energy from the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for distribution to its customers. Our own Lion, Dr. Steve Murphree, serves as a member of the Utilities Board. By the way, her husband is an electrical engineer for the Cullman Electrical Co-op, which can help in mutual cooperation between those organizations, especially in emergencies.

The Cullman Power Board remains dedicated to providing power service to the citizens of the City of Cullman in the most dependable, economic, customer-oriented, and in as safe manner as possible. One of the first things she mentioned was that the Power Board’s employees had zero lost-time accidents over the past year, which is remarkable considering the dangers in working with high voltages. Allison discussed the considerable training conferences in which her employees participate. She also talked about the free STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) 2-week summer camp for up to 60 high school students that her organization supports, along with TVA and the Cullman Electric Co-op; sign-up for participants is through Cullman Park & Rec, which actually administers the camps; sign up closes May 15th. She also talked about electrical substation upgrades underway this year and right of way clearing of potential vegetation interference for assurance maintaining continuous electrical power. Allison says that the Power Board’s new web-site will include a current map of any power outages, continuously updated. Ms. Bright also noted that the late Lion Tim Scott was one of her employees, whom she highly praised.

Ms. Bright answered several audience questions. On burying power lines, she said it would improve reliability, but it is too expensive. Asked about smart breaker boxes for monitoring electricity use, she said they could be helpful, like smart thermostats—but homeowners can decide for themselves whether the cost is worthwhile. She added that the Cullman Power Board does not plan



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to offer them. She also addressed the appearance of extra power poles in some areas, explaining that internet and fiber providers had paid to use the old poles but were not authorized to move their cables when the Power Board installed new ones.

Ms. Bright said that if anyone had concerns about Power Board operations or situations, then they should take a picture with the issue description and send it to her or come by the office to discuss it. This was another informative and interesting presentation.



We did have a good turn-out tonight. Out caterer, Mr. Freddy Day, introduced the new owner of his business. Freddy said he would be helping on a continuing but periodic basis, and he expected the quality of the catering operation would continue at a high level.

Other Business

Lion Javon Daniel, who has a heart condition, remains in stable condition, but is currently limited to restricted activities. Continue praying for him. Lion Chris Robinson's daughter was hospitalized for a few days for a successful medical procedure.

Lion Tom Pfeifer has sold his Cullman home and is moving back to Wisconsin to be closer to his large family there. Tonight was his last

meeting with our Club, but he did say he would try to come back for the Fair. Lion Tom usually spent his winters here and summers back in Wisconsin. He gave a testimony thanking our Club for the many friends he made while serving our community. In particular, he thanked Lion Fred Osborne, who was his sponsor, bringing him into our Club's membership.

Lion President Delane Ray announced years of service anniversaries for the following Lions: Dewayne Sumner – 9 years; Brad Mitchell – 4.

This last Saturday, May 2, the BBC held the Shred-A-Thon at the Fairgrounds with Lion assistance.



Here is group photo of BBC's Shred Day volunteers. Below is a photo of one of our more notable visitors – a 205 lb. English Mastiff (on the left).





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Ms. Alyssa Thomas

Upcoming Programs and Events.

May 11: Ms. Lillian Sheffield of “Knap Sacks for Kids” will be our program speaker.



Ms. Lillian Sheffield

May 18: Ms. Alyssa Thomas of the North Alabama Development and Manager of Make-A-Wish (R) Alabama



May – June ??: Agriplex Teaching Kitchen Opening Ceremony – TBD at 5:30 PM. Club meeting & meal on this night will be at Agriplex, not at Commission on Aging building.

June 15: Club Officer Installation at the Church of Christ on Child Haven Road.

June 29: Club Family Picnic at the Fairgrounds at 5:30PM. Also, a group photo will be taken of all Lions present. Be there in Lion vests or Lion T-shirts.

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 256-426-3207 (C). Lion Don can be reached at 256-737-7433 (H) or 256-426-7722 (C).