



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

November 12, 2018

Program

Lion Jim Grier introduced our speaker for tonight, Ms. Amy Gleaton, Cullman High School Leo Coordinator. She has been a teacher for 17 years with 7 of those at Cullman High School where she teaches financial-life basics and planning – keeping the students from starting off on the wrong foot and making bad financial choices as they move into adult-hood.



(L to R) Lion Jim Grier, Ms. Amy Gleaton, and Lion President Mike Ponder.

Ms. Gleaton has served as the coordinator for the past 6 years for her Leos, but that Club was initially chartered back in 1986. Almost from its beginning, it has helped our Lions Club, primarily, with its two biggest projects: The Cullman County Fair and the Fish & Ham Dinner. It is the largest Leo Club in Cullman, averaging between 100 and 135 members. Speaking of the Fair, they contribute an average total of 900 hours in that project. Lion Jim Grier noted that our Fair Lion Concession Stand would not be able to operate without the Leos' help.

As you may be aware, our Club gives a portion of our project profits to the Leo Club when they help in those efforts. Amy described how the Leo Club plans how its funds are then put back into the community. One of the Leos' biggest projects in term of funds and time is its efforts in behalf of the Head-Start Christmas Program. They provide around \$3,000 that goes towards 1-book and 2-toys to each of over 100 under-privileged children, plus additional help to several families. This Club also helps to keep the food-cabinet, mainly for students, at the Mary Carter Paint Store stocked with food for the less fortunate.

These Leos help at our elementary schools during their Fall and Christmas Festivals. There have been occasions when not enough parents were on hand to get games and other activities set-up to make these events happen, but the Leos stepped up to ensure success. The Leo Club has a program whereby students are asked to contribute jackets and coats that they have out-grown; these are then distributed back to underprivileged kids as needs are noted by teachers or even by other students. Ms. Gleaton told of a future project that Cullman's Leos are planning now for East and West Elementary schools. That project will be to paint games on paved areas and walls that are not otherwise being used for recess activities that are very much lacking at these schools, due to a lack of space, primarily. This project will be one of the



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first times that the Leos will be taking on a project fully on their own.

We should be proud and thankful for the mutual support we provide to and get from the Leos. They live up to our motto, "We serve." We owe Amy our appreciation for the fine job she has done towards that end.

Other Business

No meeting November 19th, Thanksgiving week.



I'm not sure just what the qualifications were, but Lion Tale Twister Greg Young gave a metallic coffee mug to the above Lions for being among those he really admired and wanted to honor. (L to R) Those Lions are Charlie Powell, Frank Odell, Steve Singleton, and George Hammett. He also finished passing out distinctive branch-related Christmas ornaments to all Club members who had served in the Armed Forces; the ornament-gifts were something he began last week. It seems like he has been presenting some sort of gift or award on his own, nearly every meeting. He may be trying to make-up for his vain attempts to serenade us with his apparently under-appreciated singing voice, or he may just think a lot of the members with whom he serves.

The Secretary read the results of a virtual BOD meeting in which a funding contribution was approved for the

Committee for Church Cooperation for a Thanksgiving meal for the less fortunate at St. John's Church.

November 26th will be a closed meeting for Lions, only, discussing Fair operations.

Lioness Judy Waldrep had successful surgery in Birmingham. Lion President Mike Ponder's anticipated surgery has been deferred.

Lion Steve Murphree, who has been traveling for the past couple of weeks, thanked all who assisted in parking at the annual Peinhardt Farm Day on October 20th.

The MD-34A convention will be held in Gadsden March 2, 2019.

Upcoming Programs and Events

Nov 19: No meeting – Thanksgiving week.

Nov 26: Closed meeting for final Fair reports and vote on members of the Fair Board of Directors.

Dec 3: Fair Appreciation Dinner at Stonebridge restaurant.

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).