



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

November 3, 2025

Program

Our speaker this evening was District 34-A Governor, our own Lion Craig Gadow. After an introduction by Secretary Lion Scott Starosta, Lion Craig began by highlighting the District's recruitment success, noting 111 new members in four months and a goal of 189 new members this year. But he also noted that with maintaining progress so far, that number could be 400. In this regard he challenged each Club to not just maintain its current strength, but to increase its membership by at least one by the end of the year.. He emphasized the need for younger members. He says that in our Clubs he hears, "we're too old, and nobody wants to work." Lion Gadow mentioned that at one point our Club's average age was 65. He talked about how in some Districts have "virtual clubs," that don't even meet on a regular basis. They meet on Zoom, and some members live across the Country, coming together mainly just to participate in projects. He stated that so many Clubs have dried up because a lot of small-town businesses are gone and people are having to commute, and they just don't have time for meetings. But when you take a club out of a community, it leaves a hole. Just think about all the good things this Club has contributed to this community, including projects like our support to the Good Samaritan Hospital, our support to Heritage Park, to CRMC, to the Agriplex, to Cullman Caring for Kids, and Field of Miracles. He mentioned the Lions Club of Tuscumbia, where Helen Keller was born and is immortalized in the Ivy Green facility. The Tuscumbia Lions Club now only has 3 active members. Maybe we do need to look in a different direction to get younger members and

get them involved. And if they can't show up at every meeting, that's OK. How many members that are on the rolls show up all the time, but when we need them for a project, they are there.

Lion Craig also highlighted LCIF and all the good it done throughout the Nation. Last year it collected over \$81M that support projects world-wide. It has contributed over \$2M to our State, although we have not contributed close to that amount back to LCIF. Most recently, it is providing a \$150,000 grant to the Agriplex.

In his concluding remarks, Lion Craig talked about how Lion Jerry Bonner helped convince him to become a Lion. And he mentioned his prior personal experience as a house parent at Child Haven when the kids in his house got free tickets to the Fair and to the Fish & Ham Dinner. We heard inspiring and thoughtful words from our District Governor.



President Lion Delane Ray thanks District Governor Lion Craig Gadow for his presentation.



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Other Business

Lion Javon Daniel continues recovery and stabilization from heart related issues. Lion Mike Ponder continues his cancer fight. Our great Lion, Ron Seybold passed November 6th. Lion Ron's funeral will be this coming Monday, November 10th with visitation starting at 11:00 AM and the funeral at 1:00. Lions are encouraged to wear Lion vests. Pray for these Lions and for Lion Ron's family.

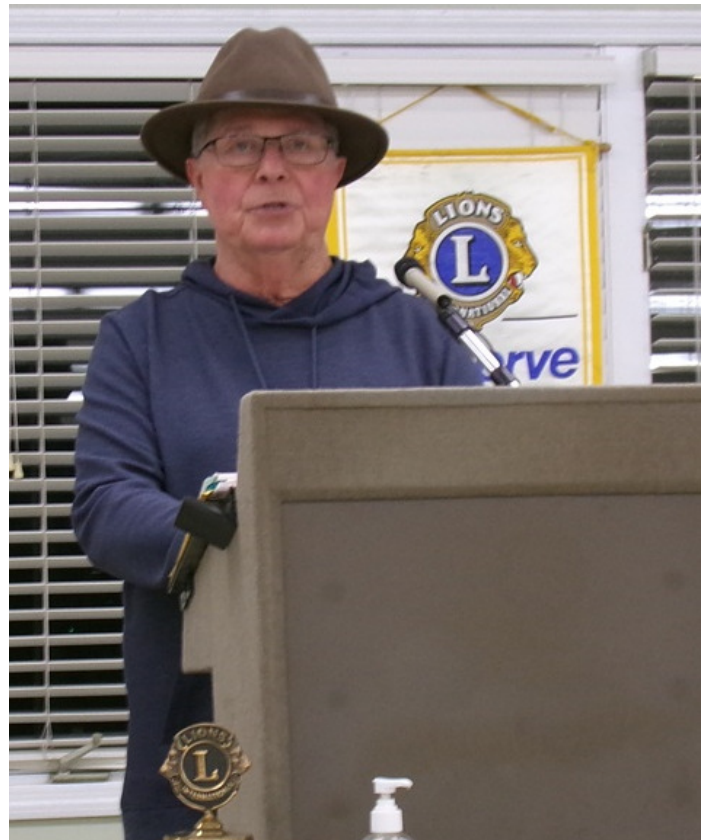


Lion Ron Seybold
May He Rest In Peace
July 22, 1954 - November 6, 2025

Lion President Delane Ray announced years-of-service anniversaries for the following Lions: Adam Aker – 3 years, Brian Boozer – 41, Jerry Galin – 53, Phillip Garrison – 19, David Wiggins – 2, and Matt Hogue – 10.

Lion President Ray temporarily suspended our Club meeting and called upon Fair Association President, Lion Charlie Childers to call a meeting of the Cullman County Fair Association to conduct Fair business. After doing so, he called upon Lion Steve Cartee, Chair of the Fair

Association Election Committee. Lion Steve reminded everyone that an election for 5 members of the Fair Board is scheduled for November 17th. He also announced that current Fair Board members whose terms are ending have agreed to be candidates in this election for another 2-year term. Lion Steve asked for further nominations from the floor, but none were made. nominations were made from the floor. BOD members whose terms are ending, but will be candidates are Lions Charlie Childers, Randy Kraft, Steve Murphree, Tim Scott, and Carey Thompson. Lion Steve said that he plans to announce all candidates for the BOD positions on Nov. 10th. Following Lion Steve's announcement, a motion was made to adjourn the Fair Association meeting. This motion was seconded and was unanimously approved by voice vote.



Lion Steve Cartee discussed the upcoming Fair Association election.



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Upcoming Programs and Events

November 10: Lion Carey Thompson will discuss Lion History, current status, and review contributions provided over the past 5 years.

December 1: Fair Appreciation Dinner at the Loft. Dress is "Coat & Tie." Doors open at 5:30 PM with dinner at 6:00.

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.