



The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

October 17, 2022

Program

Our program tonight gave our Fair committee chairmen a chance to comment and tell a tale or two about their experiences during Cullman County Fair 2022. Although all expenses have not been total, our receipts look like it may have been a record Fair. Lion Fair Treasurer will be giving us a report on that in the coming weeks. We had a Fair that we all can be proud of and had no serious incidents or injuries. One common comment from Lions, however, was that staffing shortages sometimes put a lot of strain on the folks still standing to get the job done. We've got to do better next year on this. I know Lion Richard White was way-short in parking staff going into the last Saturday. Several of his scheduled Lions said they could not make it. Lion Richard asked the Lion Secretary to put the word out in an email that he really needed some help, and he did get a few volunteers, to include prison in-mates.

Speaking of parking, it would have been very difficult to get everyone efficiently parked many times without the use of Mr. Roy Drinkard's adjacent land.



Lions Richard White and Milford Parrish standing next to sign thanking Drinkard Development.

Lion Steve Cartee, who was subbing for Lions Charlie Childers and Chris Robinson for Fair Queen pageant operations, said that although they were short handed at times, things still went smoothly, although he feared that he was going to be nominated to fluff the dresses of the Fair Queen contestants. Lion Steve reported that the winner qualified as Miss Teen Alabama contestant and the runner-up qualified to be a contestant in the State-wide, Miss Alabama Contest.



(L to R) Lions Steve Cartee, Frank Odell, Don Smith, Barry Willingham, Milford Parrish, Richard White, Steve Murphree, and Dennis Berse all talked about their Fair experiences.

Lion Frank Odell was substituting for Lion David Bussman and reported that the Concession Stand had a very successful Fair and that he could not wait to see the final results. Lion David want to give special thanks to Melissa Cartee, David Willingham, and Lion Jeff Williams for their



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Cullman Lions Club

efforts beyond the call in supporting the concession stand.

Lion Don Smith reported that processing all the step of receiving and processing exhibits from the IT perspective was relatively painless this year. Except for just a few outliers, all the award checks were printed by the end of the 2nd Friday. He noted that he and Sam Roberts had taken responsibility for the Fair's Facebook page and that after he used this site on Saturday, the last day of the Fair, to thank all participants and visitors, he still got a response of, "Today is the last day of the Fair???"

Lion Barry Willingham wanted to thank Lions Bo Waldrep, Jeff Wren, Doug Doggett, Mathew Bales, Tyler Frost, Josh Speakman, Steve Rodgers, Alan Walker, Jerry Galin, Jeff Byrd, Craig Gadow, Bobby & Jan Davis (Hanceville Lions Club), Steve Murphree, Chris Brooks, Charlie Powell, and Bill Wilt (I may have left someone out – could not copy cleanly). Lion Barry noted one incident when a limo pulled up, threw out a red carpet and a velvet rope and proceed to the entrance with a big entourage. It was the kid's birthday party event. Lion Barry came up and asked if they all had tickets, but it turned out they did not. Lion Barry said "sorry" and told them to hit the back of the line with everyone else. That was they only instance when a patron was really unhappy.

Lion Richard White said that this was the most challenging Fair he has had regarding management of parking. Staffing was the problem as I already talked about at the first of this newsletter.

The worst excuse for someone who did not show up to work was that they had booked a cruise for the entire week of the Fair. Lion Richard did thank those who did show up, particularly Lion Milford Parrish who came after his doctor told him not to do so after just having a tooth pulled; Lion Richard was very appreciative to all those who very not even on his team who came in on the last Saturday to help, including Lion Dwayne Wilson who kept working with a bad back. Despite all that, he said those that he and those that did work did have a pretty good time. The only problem he recounted involved a mentally challenge guy who kept getting lost, wandering around the parking lot.

Lion Steve Murphree talked about the Fair Parade which was the largest we've had in recent years. The only real problem encountered was a 7-minute delay caused when one of the cheer leaders passed out, blocking everything as 3 ambulances came to the rescue. Otherwise thanks to Lions coming out to help, things went off without a hitch. It took an hour and 20 minutes to get the entire parade out of the starting gate. The only other slight problem happened when some guy with a big bearded-dragon lizard was letting folks in the parade pet it, and then they were also throwing out candy. The problem here was that those lizards are notorious for spreading salmonella. Lion Steve put a stop to the lizard activity. Lion Steve was also in charge of the Ag building. He said we had much larger participation with thanks to Carrie others from the Extension Service, Lion Brad Mitchell, and Lion Don Smith for the rework in rewriting the various categories. We had a lot of people come through the building and



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Cullman Lions Club

were able to show almost continuous instructional Ag videos thanks to the Extension Service on the two large TV mounted in that building. Lion Steve noted that he had several Lion stopped by, volunteering to help after they finished their assigned Fair work.

Lion Dennis Berse talked about his work in Exhibit Bldg #1. He also felt at times very challenged and frustrated by a need for more staffing. However, he and his wife, Lioness Shannon held things together and had a very successful Fair. He especially thanked Lions Dwayne Wilson, Morris Mangum, Craig Gadow, Doug Williams, James Williams, and Doug Doggett. Lion Dennis said that they had a lot of compliments about the quality of the exhibits. He also noted that the exhibit booths put on by the 4-H, FCCLA, and FCC Clubs were the best that he has seen at any Fair. He also thanked the Fair Board, and especially Lion Jerry Bonner. Lion Don Smith told a story on Lion Dennis. Lion Dennis was unaware of a teacher's presence in the building when she whispered to Lion Don, "Did you know that little man in the back can cuss like a sailor?"

Other Business

Lion Charles McBrayer is home from a hospital stay due to abdominal pains; he is still awaiting test results. Lion Jim burke is recovering from a medical procedure. Lion Wendel Copeland is recovering from abdominal surgery.

Lion President Milford Parrish shared an award the club received from Lions Club International for our Club's donations.

Our 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> .

If you have any problem getting to the site, contact Lion Craig Gadow at 256-736-8361.

Cullman Lions Club BROOMS & MOPS

** can be purchased at **

Cullman Veterinary Hospital
Doug Doggett Jewelers
Ed White Jewelers
Peek Auto Parts
Ponder Wrecker Service
Walker Brothers, Baileytown

PRICE LIST

Broom, Household...(Blue Handle).....	\$16.00
Mop, Cotton 12 oz.....	\$10.00
Broom, Warehouse.....	\$20.00

Upcoming Programs and Events

October 24: TBD

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).