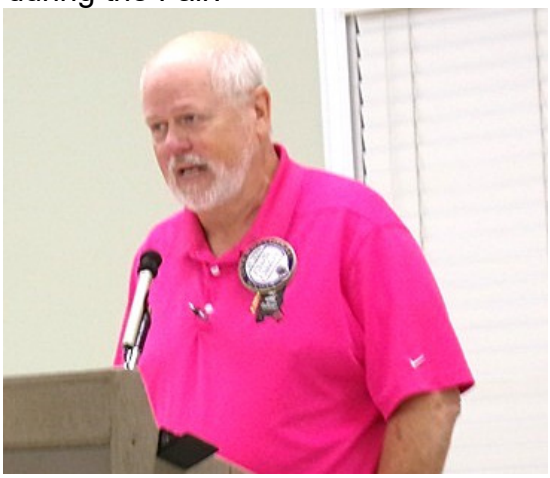
The Tale Twister

Cullman Lions Club

October 26, 2026

Program

Tonight was sort of a recovery night after this year's Fair (a lot of Lions were still dragging) --- with Fair Association President Lion Charlie Childers providing a run-down on how things went during the Fair.



Fair President Lion Charlie Childers summing up our just completed 2026 Fair.

Lion Charlie began by thanking our Lions and everyone who helped, noting that many Lions were there every day of the Fair. Nobody really got hurt (one kid got a fat-lip on a ride), and just about everybody had a good time. Although our Fair was highly successful, again, profits were ~30% below last year's. All-in-one-pass sales were down about 2,000 from last year. Some of the major factors in the lower profits were as follows: The 4D Farm event and October-Fest, which had been extended days, was increased competition. The economy in general has been impacted by higher gas prices which impacts inflation and prices across the board. Dekalb County Fair and Kissel, our mid-way contractor, confirmed the same observation at other Fairs in our region. Another impact was the change by Kissel to go "cash-less" this year and only taking credit cards. Kissel was selling credit cards that could loaded with however much you wanted and with excess allowed to be used anyplace outside the Fair. People may have been worried that information needed to purchase the Kissel cards might get outside the intended purpose --- particularly, among Hispanics, who might have had ICE concerns (there was a noticeable drop their participation). However, this concern was not a true problem. There was also a drop-off in 16- to 25-year-old visitors, probably due to their generally lower incomes.

Exhibits were up at least 15% this year due to some changes in enhancements of awards and addition of flowers & plants categories. Lion Charlie said that we had nearly all good reviews, noting that patrons could get on rides with hardly any waiting and ride all you wanted; there were slightly fewer rides this year, probably due to commitments at another Fair by our mid-way provider. Generally, there was also more open space due to fewer games and eating places. Charlie said that we would make a concerted effort to go back to having our Fair in conjunction with Columbus Day, as we have historically done most often in the past.

"2026 Princes of the Kitchen", Ms. Maria Scalerno accepting reward check, blue ribbon, and certificate from Fair President Charlie Childers.

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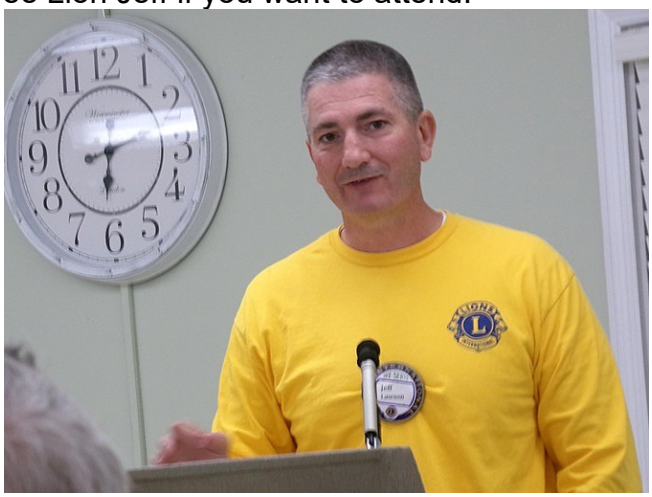
Other Business

Lion President Jeff Lawson read "Thank You" notes from both the Leader Dogs Association (It has a Teen Camp coming up in the near future) and The Link (It has planned its dinner "Gala" for Nov. 5th and has a table set aside for our Club. See Lion Jeff if you want to attend.



Lion President Jeff Lawson making announcements. Notice that after much recent harassment from Lion Tail Twister, Richard Gurley, Lion Jeff's name tag is front and center on his chest.

See photo, above. On Wednesday morning, October 28th, five Cullman Lions Club members were at the Good Samaritan Health Clinic in Cullman Alabama, assisting with the Alabama Lions Sight Mobile Eye Clinic Vision Screening Program. Leader in this activity, Lion Sean Schofield, advised us that the Good Samaritan Clinic has moved its location to a new site across from the VFW, near the Christian Book Store.

Upcoming Programs and Events.

Nov 2: TBD.

Nov 5: "Gala Dinner" at the Link. Our Club has several tickets. Details forthcoming. See Lion President Lawson if you would like to attend.

Nov 9: TBD.

Nov. 16: Cullman County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments - Zack McGee, President:

Nov 23: No meeting – Thanksgiving week.

Nov 30: Fair Appreciation Dinner. Details to follow.

Dec. 7: Chainbreakers Ministries.

Jan. 11: Ms. Michelle Lee, founder and Executive Director of Healing through Creativity Foundation will be our speaker.

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).