

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday Dec. 12, 2017, 7PM at the Lion's Den**

Members: 17

Guests: 9

President Keith opened the meeting promptly per his watch. Guests were introduced: Pat Yackley, mother of Lion Paul, Cherie Yackley, Paul's wife, Nahid Poonawala, wife of Lion Mazher, Marie Robinson, wife of Lion PDG Don, 2nd Vice District Governor Tony Austin, 1st Vice District Governor Karl Johnson and wife Jane, District Cabinet Secretary Lion Judy Champion, and District Governor Betty Ezell. President Keith then thanked the Elves for the desserts, prepping dinner, and putting up the tree and table decorations.

1st Vice District Governor Karl Johnson, from the Conroe Noon Lions Club, thanked us for the wonderful meal. He introduced DG Betty as "a very kind, sweet, and compassionate lady, but you don't know the other side of her." He explained that on a conference phone call from LCIF, where DG Betty heads the committee for Harvey relief, she got frustrated with the slowness of LCIF and said, "Our District needs more help, and you're not doing it. This is what we need and we need it now." More monies were released for Christmas gifts for needy families, partly due to her statement.

DG Betty thanked 1st VDG Karl and 2nd VDG Tony for supporting her during her year as District Governor. She wanted to talk to us about some of the passions of her life. First is God. Second is family. She left her family and moved to California, and didn't get to see them much, and really appreciated when they got together. Her third passion is Country. Her brothers were in the Air Force and Navy, and her youngest brother was unable to join the military due to a previous neck injury. Her fourth passion is her Lions family. She joined Lions when she moved to Houston, and enjoyed the large District, saying it reminds her of a large family. When she became District Governor, she wanted all Lions to feel like family. She reminisced about when she helped the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club at the Cy-Fair Rodeo every Friday night during the summer, and felt a part of our Club. "This Club will always be special to me because of the things I did to help you, and I will cherish these memories for the rest of my life." She spoke of Lion Milly's husband, Lion Mickey, PDG Al Lindow and his wife Lucille, Lions PDG Fred Hamilton and Louise, Lions Bud and Dorothy Casey, saying she wished we had those good times again. Her dream was for all Lions in the District to feel like family. She realized that when Hurricane Harvey hit, Lions from all over the US and Canada sent donations and truck loads of supplies to help us out, treating us like family. LCIF President Bob Corlew came and toured the devastation with Lions Tony, Mark Roth, Karl, and Lion Chuck as chauffeur. She commented that our Club helped families, and is still helping families through grants from LCIF. We donate Christmas baskets of food to 60 needy families each Christmas. "You're an outstanding Club and you've done so much for your area" she said. She would like to see more Lions step up to assume District positions, saying it is becoming more difficult to find willing Lions to serve in the District Cabinet. "I thank you for all you have done to help me as District Governor. Serving you has been one of the greatest pleasures of my life." DG Betty talked of another passion, that of being a difference maker. One of the most important things we can do is to make a difference in someone else's life. She asked where Helen Keller would be if Anne Sullivan had not made a difference in her life. She closed with "you never know what you may accomplish by helping someone else. Care for our Lions family as your own."

DG Betty then presented Lions Bob and Chuck with membership's awards. New members, Randy and Laura Matthews were formally inducted by DG Betty, while sponsors Chuck and Sandy pinned the Lion pin on them. She then gave Lions Randy and Laura, and President Keith, her personal pin.

Lion Chuck requested that we dismiss with the Secretaries and Treasurers reports due to time constraints.

Lion Becca discussed the upcoming Christmas Cheer Basket project. She had 55 nominations from CFISD, and has 3 nominations for baskets from Lions. Two families are quite large, with 12 and 14 people each and we may need to give those large families two baskets. She explained that this Lions Club sponsored the Venture Scout Crew in 2008. Prior to that, we were giving out 30 baskets to families. With the various Boy Scout, Cub Scout, and Venture Scouts conducting neighborhood food drives, we were able to double the number of baskets given each year. We budget \$2000 to purchase perishable foods and baskets. Scouts collect approximately \$1500 in canned goods. She commented how allowing the Scouts to deliver the baskets has been life changing to them, when they realize that not everyone lives with the same lifestyle as they do. "Service projects are the best way to connect our youth to socializing." On Tues, Lion Becca and President Keith will purchase baskets, fruits and vegetables. Thursday night at 7PM we will gather to sort produce, pack the baskets, and share in a Cookie Swap. Friday evening things can be finished up. Lion Becca asked that those interested in delivering baskets let her know so that she can start to make out teams and routes. She anticipates each Lions or Scout delivering to four families. We will service the entire Cy-Fair School District. Bring your own donations to the Lions' Den Tues. through Thursday. Invite anyone to come and help and see Lions in action.

Lion Chuck discussed the Lions Eye Bank of Texas Bowl-A-Thon to be held Sat. March 24. Our Club has in the past donated \$300 as sponsorship, which entitles us to a four person bowling team, our name on the T-shirts, and recognition of support. Motion to again sponsor at \$300 was made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Kamal, and passed.

The Children's Magic Festival Magic Show will be held next Mon, Dec. 18, at 7PM at the Berry Center. We need Lions in vests to be greeters, to sell tickets at the door, and to collect tickets at the Theater doors.

Mon. Jan. 15, 2018 will be our second Spirit Night at Willy's Ice House and Grill at Jones Road and Hwy. 290, from 4:30PM until closing. Invite friends, and let your server know that you are support the Lions Spirit Night, and our Club receives a portion of the proceeds that night.

The Mid Winter Conference will be held Sat. Feb. 17, 2018 from 8:30AM to 2 PM at the Hilton at Greenspoint. This is a great learning tool for all Lions. Register on line through the District website: www.lions2s2.org.

LCIF has granted Holiday Family Spirit monies, with \$22,000 given for the District. Each Club can chose 1 family to support, with \$100 per family member to be spent on food, clothing, medications, toys, etc. Lions are to go shopping and purchase the items with the family, and MUST turn in original receipts for reimbursement. Also we have two other families we are helping with repairs on their damaged homes.

President Keith read a Thank You from the Texas Lions Camp for the gift in memory of a previous member of this Club, Fred Bankston, who recently passed away. He was President of this Club early on, and his widow donated monies to us, which we donated in his name to the Camp.

With no further business, President Keith asked Lion John to dismiss us with a hearty Lions Roar.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary