

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday May 10, 2016 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 12

Guests: 4

President Paul opened the meeting promptly. Lion John led the pledges to the flags. Lion Paul gave prayer. Lion Don is home, awaiting knee replacement surgery in 2 wks, so there was no song. Guests were introduced.

Kathy Smith, and three others from the Cy-Fair Women's Club, were our guests, presenters and brought their Club's service project for the past several months. They collected used eyeglasses from Club members and family over a two month period, and brought a box of 175 pair of used eyeglasses for us to recycle at the Conroe Noon Lions Club Eyeglass Recycling Center. Ms. Smith gave us a brief rundown of their organization. Their biggest fund raiser is Shop Till You Drop, which is held at the Berry Center. This year the event will be Sept. 10, with over 300 booths. Cy-Fair Women's Organization distributes this money in many ways. Last year they gave 22 \$1000 scholarships to kids in the Cy-Fair School district. Each year they give \$5000 to \$10,000 to various Cy-Fair agencies, such as the Volunteer Fire Department. They recently gave \$7000 to Cypress Assistance Ministries for their food pantry to purchase shelving and a conveyer belt to move supplies. They serve lunch at various Habitat for Humanity builds. They also make Breast Cancer Pillows to distribute, and this year will collect bathrobes and slippers for Christmas for the needy. Cy-Fair Women's Club was originally founded as the Copperfield Women's Club in the 70's and early 80's, but changed the name to be more inclusive of the ever growing Cy-Fair area. They have more than 90 members and meet the first Thurs. of each month at the Community Center at Greenhouse and Logenbaugh. They were warmly welcomed to our meeting, and thanked for their service project of eyeglass collection. As Lions, we informed them of what we do in the community, from free KidSight Vision Screening, to Christmas food baskets, to our concession stand and Bike Ride.

Secretary's minutes were emailed, read, and no corrections reported. Motion to accept as written was made by Lion Sandy, seconded by Lion Chuck, and passed.

Treasurer's report was given. We have money in the bank. Building insurance has been paid for the year, which was \$400 less than last year.

There will be a baseball tournament this weekend with approximately 40 games to be played here. Lions were recruited to work the concession stand.

The Leader Dog Dinner of last Friday night was discussed. The entertainment was a reenactment of Helen Keller speaking to the Lions at the International Convention in Sandusky, Ohio in 1925. This was a true reenactment, with the actress mimicking the gait, voice, and eye movements of someone who was deaf and blind. All who attended were very impressed. There were silent and live auctions, an actual Leader Dog and her blind human, and a blind teen who is considering getting a Leader Dog. About 300 dogs a year are raised at the Leader Dog facility in Michigan, then given to Puppy Raisers who take the dogs everywhere to acclimate them to various social situations, then at about 13 months of age, the dogs are returned to the Leader Dog facility for more specific training as a guide dog. After they have passed that, they are paired with a blind person, and the person-dog team stays for several weeks of intensive training.

Lion Chuck asked for volunteers to present two scholarships to students at the Montgomery High School Awards Mon. May 16. We present these awards for our use of the Montgomery High School Athletic Complex for our Bike Ride each October.

We need to start preparing for this year's Magic Show. Lions Bud and Stedman volunteered to work on it. It was explained to our guests that the magician is "kid friendly", and most ticket sales are done at a call center. Last year the Magic Show was held on a Tues. night at the theater at the Berry Center, and despite several misgivings, was very successful.

Our Lions District has received Grant funds from Lions Clubs International for the flood damage two weeks ago. Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club purchased diapers and medications that were requested to restock the shelves at Cypress Assistance Ministries. Lions Chuck, Sandy, Merrell, and Bob, with their "granddaughter" delivered the items to CAM. Please visit our Facebook page at Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club to see pictures of our entire donation. Several other Lions Clubs within the District also used the grant funds to purchase and distribute items after the flooding. Lions Bud and Dorothy expressed their heartfelt thanks for all who helped them after the flooding of their office and home. Lions Paul and Milly also had water in their homes.

Lion Sandy explained that she and Lion Chuck will be on vacation during the next Lions Club meeting, and requested someone to call the food order into Jesse's Country Cooking on Saturday, pick it up Tues. before they close at 2PM, and heat and serve at the meeting. Lion Terry volunteered. Plastic containers to carry the food will be supplied. Lion Merrell volunteered to take minutes at the next meeting.

There are two upcoming KidSight Vision Screening where we need Scribes on May 13 and May 31. Lions Bob and Keith volunteered. This Saturday we go to Cut and Shoot Family Lions Club Health Fair to do vision screening. To our guests, we explained the free vision screening program using a state of the art vision screening camera. Since we started this project about 8 months ago, we have screened over 1600 children, with over 200 being referred for a complete eye examination. We explained that Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club purchases about 75-125 eye exams and glasses for needy children within the CFISD each year. Last weekend we did Vision Screening at a Scouting function. The women of the Cy-Fair Women's Club wondered if we could not do Vision Screening at their Shop Till you Drop event at the Berry Center. They provide child care services as children are not permitted in the shopping areas. They will find out if our doing vision screening in school property is permitted, and if so, they will contact us.

Lion Chuck reported that he will be conducting a Guiding Lions Training at our facility. He explained this is a two year commitment to new Lions Clubs being started, or to help struggling Clubs. The District Membership Chairperson assigns Guiding Lions as needed. Anyone interested to attend the training, please see Lion Chuck.

To our guests, we explained the Texas Lions Camp, on over 500 acres in Kerrville, TX, which provides a week of camp for children with handicaps, Down's Syndrome, or Type 1 Diabetes, at no cost to the families. Lion Keith discussed the Camp Work Day were several of our Lions, along with 400 other volunteers, to spruce up the Camp for summer. Camp holds about 200 children a week from June to August. We have a District bus that takes kids to and from Camp for two sessions. Texas Lions Camp was founded in 1949, originally for children with polio.

With no further business, Lion Stedman dismissed us after a Lions Roar.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary