

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday June 13, 2017 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 18

Guests: 14

President Paul opened the meeting promptly. Lion Merrell gave prayer. Lion John led the pledges to the flags. Lion Don led us in singing his favorite, "Oh Beautiful, Beautiful Texas. Guests were introduced: Cherie Yackley, wife of President Paul, Pat Yackley, mother of President Paul, Doris, mother of Lion Steve, Marie Robinson, wife of Lion Don, Wahid, wife of Lion Mazher, Chanel and Amani, daughters of Lion Stedman, and incoming members Jennifer Finch, Gary Ginn, and Christina Ginn, and their daughter, and District Governor Elect Lion Betty Ezell, and her sister Carolyn.

After the meal, Lion Chuck introduced DG Elect Lion Betty Ezell, reporting that she will be our 100th District Governor, since Lions Clubs International was founded 100 years ago last month. Lion Betty is from the Houston Spring Branch Lions Club, which she joined in 1996. She has served in every office of that Club except Treasurer. She served as Cabinet Secretary twice, the first time under PDG Lion Chuck in 2009-2010. She reports that she really "became a Lion" when working with the transportation team, taking handicapped children from Houston to the Texas Lions Camp and back. She is retired from Chevron, where she worked in the financial department.

DGE Betty expressed what a pleasure it is to be here tonight, that to her it feels like coming home. We always make her feel welcome, as if she is a member of our Club. She remembered working in our Concession stand, and cleaning and sweeping the building just after it was built.

Before inducting our new members, she gave them an overview of how Lions Clubs came to be. In June of 1917, a Chicago insurance agent, named Melvin Jones, wanted to combine a group of 27 smaller similar organizations to provide service to their communities. These original Clubs are known as Founders Clubs. Melvin Jones liked the lion as a symbol, because of its strength and courage. Lions is also from a saying during WWI, "Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nations Safety". The Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club was chartered on April 23, 1957, with 31 Charter Members. The Charter night banquet was held at Brennan's Steak House on I-10, and was sponsored by the Houston Spring Branch Lions Club. PDG Lion Don Robinson is our last remaining Charter member. DGE Betty reported some accomplishments of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club, saying we are very active in the District, and very much appreciated. She then invited the new inductees to the front of the room: Steve Nickerson, Jennifer Finch, and Gary and Christina Ginn. Together they agreed to follow the Lions Clubs code of ethics, and assist this Club any way they can. They were asked to briefly tell us about themselves. Jennifer said that she was not from anywhere, as she has lived in 5 different states. She works as the Assistant Librarian at the Fairbanks Library just across the parking lot from our facility. She was a Leo in high school, and her grandfather was a Lion. Gary Ginn reported that he works for the Harris County Parks Department, and that Lion Chuck has been after him for some time to join. His father was also a Lion. Wife Christina stated that she works with volunteer organizations, and thinks she will fit into our Club very well. Steve Nickerson said he is a teacher, transitioning into an administrative role. His step-father was also a Lion, and Steve grew up attending Lions projects. All new inductees were warmly welcomed.

DGE Betty then inducted the new officers. As Lion Tamer, Lion Bob Rugur is in charge and responsible for the Club property, and is to assist the Past President as official greeter. As Tail Twister, Lion Julie Blaise is to promote fun and fellowship, draw the members together in closer friendship, by levying fines as needed. Club Directors, John Peterson, Terry Peterson, Dorothy Casey, and Becca Franco (absent), were reminded that all business of the Club is considered and shaped by the Board of Directors on which they serve. Membership Director, Lion Merrell Greene, was informed that she is to oversee the proper recruitment of new members, minimize membership losses, and work with a committee to recruit new members. Vice President, Mazher Poonawala, was informed he was to substitute for the President in his absence, oversees functions of committees as appointed by the President, and works closely with the Board of Directors. As Treasurer, DGE Betty reminded Lion Chuck that he has been doing this job for a long time, and she did not need to explain the job to him. As Secretary, DGE Betty again said that Lion Sandy has been doing this important job for a long, long time, and did not need to be told what she needs to do. As President, Keith Blaise is to preside over the meetings, appoint committees per the LCI plan, and act as a member of each committee. As President, he and the Secretary are on the District Governor's Advisory Committee, and is expected to attend Zone meetings, and the PSC meetings. At the end of the year, he will be called to present a record of the success of the Club under his guidance. To Immediate Past President Paul Yackley, she informed him that he wasn't done quite yet, that he is still responsible to work with the new President, to lead, and guide as needed. To the entire Board of Directors, she encouraged us to authorize all expenditures, and not go into debt or spend monies not needed by the Club or others. All Club members were asked to rise and agreed their full support to the new officers.

President Paul stated that he had hoped to pass out special pins for Lions who worked above and beyond the call of duty, however the pins have not arrived yet. To Lions Keith, Julie, Bob, Merrell, John and Bud, he hoped to present the pins at the next meeting. He gave a special thanks to Lion Bob, stating that in all the years he has been here, the men's restroom door finally locks.

President Paul presented to DGE Betty a letter explaining our gift to her of a Lions Eye Bank of Texas Visionary Award, which is on its way to her.

President Paul presented to Lion Kamal her 25 year pin chevron, stating he has had this since October 2015, and has been waiting for her to attend a meeting to receive it.

He reported that at the PSC meeting, Lion Sandy was presented with a 100% Secretary Award, and Lion Chuck a 100% Treasurer's Award. The club also received its 100% club award. At the Cabinet meeting, Lion Chuck was presented with District 2-S2 Lion of the Year award.

Lion Betty then presented Lion Chuck with a Master Key award for sponsoring 20 members as Lions.

President Paul reviewed the accomplishments of this Club over the past year. He said he has been president for the past three years, and glad he is getting out so that he doesn't become a Roosevelt.

Incoming President Lion Keith thanked everyone for voting for him to be President. He thanked Lion Don for being here tonight, that it means a lot to him to have a Charter member at his induction as President. It is great to have four new Lions members join tonight. He thanked everyone who has helped to clean and spruce up the facility, and said he wants to have fun and fellowship at meetings, and is counting on everyone to help.

Lion Chuck then presented to President Paul a Coke Zero with his name on it. He then gave him a plain brick, but on the other side it is engraved and will be placed under the flag pole to honor his three years as President. Lion Chuck then presented President Paul with a Melvin Jones Fellowship, honoring and thanking him for the service to this Club. The Melvin Jones Fellowship is the highest award given to a Lion by his club.

Lion Chuck reported that he hosted two Lions from New Zealand who were visiting here. The baseball tournament the weekend they were here was rained out, but he showed them our concession stand and meeting room. He presented their Club Banner to President Paul, to be displayed in the trophy case.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary