

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday April 24, 2018 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 10

Guests: 1

President Keith opened the meeting promptly. Lion Mazher led the pledges to the flags. Lion Julie gave prayer. Since Lion Jennifer was not present, Lion Chuck motioned that we not sing a song, but that was over ruled by Lion Julie, who led us in singing Happy Birthday to Lion Chuck. He was presented with a cake. Guest speaker Jack Emmott was introduced. Lion Becca then held a silent auction which Lion Dorothy had planned, however she and Lion Bud were in an accident on the way to the meeting and could not make it. Lion Becca had a “present” in a bright blue bag. Everyone was to write down their bid for the item. The “winner” was Lion Chuck, who opened the bag to find a huge apple pie. He then told the story of the silent auction one year where he, Lion Dorothy, and Lion Mickey Spencer were all upping each other’s bid for an apple pie. The winning bid that year was \$50 to Lion Dorothy.

After the dinner, Lion Mazher introduced Jack Emmott, who spoke on life after polio. He said he knew that God had a plan for him. He described this area where he grew up. The Amish had set up farms here, and then left after the Great Hurricane of 1900. His great grandfather purchased 100 acres for \$31/acre, and set up to farming. He gave 5 acres to each of his 9 children. The area became known as Emmottsville, and Emmott Road is named for the family. He reported that he remembers the area flooding 3 times within 5 years from White Oak Bayou overflowing. In 1954, he lived near 45 cousins, 15 aunts and uncles, grandparents, and parents. There were 5 oil wells on the property. There was a flood that year, and it is thought that he contracted polio from walking in the contaminated water of that flood. At age 5, just prior to starting first grade, he had flu like symptoms of fever, and weakness, and was paralyzed from the waist down. He spent a year in a hospital getting the best care available. He recalled that the fish from his grandfather’s pond were used to stock the pond at the newly built Bane Park. He used to watch kids play baseball at our fields. His grandfather was an impressive baseball player, and Jack wanted to be just like him until polio hit. He was presented with a team uniform when he could not play on the team, and he became the MC for the team, keeping the official scorebook, and calling the games. In 1960 he was offered a chance to go to Texas Lions Camp in Kerrville. He said he didn’t want to go, but his parents took him anyway. Camp was 2 weeks long at that time. He took swimming lessons daily and fell in love with one of the teachers/counselors. Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club sponsored Mr. Emmott to TLC that year. His schooling consisted of a teacher who travelled all over the Cy-Fair area to do homebound instructions to handicapped kids in the area. He believes God wants us to be at our full potential. He works as a divorce lawyer; more like a peacemaker in difficult situations, helping people make peace and resolution together. Mr. Emmott has written books on angels in his life. He also mentioned that he spent 5 years in an iron lung in his 30’s. The lung was just at night to allow his breathing muscles time to rest and heal. He thanked us for the great work that Lions do.

Minutes of the last meeting were emailed to everyone. Motion by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Julie, that they be accepted as written passed.

Treasurer’s report was given. There is money in the bank.

We have a 60 game baseball tournament this weekend, and there is no rain in the forecast. It was suggested that we remove Vitamin Water and Cherry Sprite from our menu, and purchase unsweet tea instead.

Lion Julie reported that we earned just over \$80 on our last Willie's Spirit Night. Special thanks went out to Tyler, our waiter that night, who asked other diners if they would support our Spirit Night. The next event will be Mon. June 25 at the same Willie's on Jones Road and Hwy. 290. She is trying to find more restaurants that would be willing to host a Spirit Night.

Lion Merrell reported that she and Lion Bob attended a seminar on marketing this afternoon. She discussed various ideas such as a brisket and beans dinner, community fair and tag sale, an afternoon Death by Chocolate Murder Mystery, etc. She discussed the possibility of advertising signs placed along the baseball fences, purchased by banks, car dealerships, etc. Lion Chuck will email her the Cy-Fair Sports Association lease to make sure that is not in violation.

Lion Merrell proposed moving the management of our Club website to Lion Randy as Lion John Donato is difficult and slow to work with. She said Lion Randy has expressed interest in doing this. Since he is not at the meeting, motion by Lion Merrell, seconded by Lion Julie, to move the website management to Lion Randy will be tabled until the next meeting so that we can discuss with Lion Randy his ideas.

With no further business, Lion John dismissed us by saying Dismissed. Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary