

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday Aug. 27, 2019 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 8

Guests: 2

President Becca opened the meeting at 7:01 with a gong, but without her gavel. Lion Keith led the pledges to the flags. Lion Mazher gave prayer. Guests were introduced: Barbara Smith, guest of Lion Bud, and our speaker, Lion Larry Smith and his dog Bentley.

After the meal, Lion Larry Smith, of the Woodlands Lions Club, spoke to us about Leader Dogs for the Blind, located in Rochester Hills, Michigan. PDG Noah Speer introduced him to Leader Dogs, and he has enjoyed giving presentations to Clubs throughout the District. Three Lions started Leader Dogs for the Blind in 1937, seeing a need to raise and train dogs to help the blind navigate. Thus Leader Dogs is older than our own Texas Lions Camp. Only special dogs are bred and raised in the kennels at Rochester Hills. The puppies stay with the mothers about 8 weeks, then are given to puppy raisers who then make sure the dogs are introduced to a variety of social situations, and are taught basic commands. After about a year, they are then returned to Leader Dog School where the dogs are given intensive instruction on leading the blind. Then they are paired with their human. Together master and dog undergo further training, and are subjected to a variety of transportation areas, such as inner city, country, stores, etc. After about a month of this training, the pair are sent back home, but are always in contact with Leader Dogs. It costs an incredible \$45,000 to raise and train a dog to service the blind. This includes the month the person spends at Leader Dogs learning to trust their canine companion. Clubs can do fundraisers; specify monies to Leader Dogs in their wills, etc. Last year, 8 clients from Texas were paired with new Leader Dogs. Currently, there are 46 Leader Dogs in Texas. There is a summer camp for teens where they learn further mobility training. The minimum age to be paired with a dog is 16, and there is no upper age limit, but the person needs to be independently mobile. Some dogs are trained for blind and deaf clients, and are trained to respond only to hand signals. Lion Larry passed around the poster with all of last year's dogs who completed Leader Dog School.

Secretary's report was emailed out, and no corrections were noted. Motion to accept as written made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Keith, and passed.

Treasurer's report was given. Bills have been paid.

Willie's Spirit Night netted us \$98.07, our best night yet. It was good company, good fun, and good food. Further Spirit Nights will be scheduled.

Baseball will start Sept. 8. Lion Brad is not here tonight, but please sign up with him to work our Concession stand.

There are several room rentals scheduled, thanks to Lion Julie.

Lion Randy is not here to report on our website.

A new ceiling has been installed in the meeting room, closets, bathrooms and hallway. It looks much taller and brighter, and the acoustics are better. Thanks to Lions Chuck and Paul for seeing to this improvement.

We received in the mail a new banner chevron from LCIF.

We received a Thank You for our installment on our Club's Campaign 100 fund, at \$2 per member. We also received a Thank You from Leader Dogs for the same \$2 per member contribution, which is part of our District's 100% Charities.

The Bob Dowden Dinner will be Sat. Oct. 5 at the Greenspoint Marriot. We have purchased 2 tables. Lions who have already said they will attend are: Becca and Tony Franco, Chuck and Sandy Martin, Julie and Keith Blaies, John and Terry Peterson, Mazher and Nahid Poonawalla, Bud and Dorothy Casey. There is still room for more Lions to attend. Our Club has again been asked to check out persons from the Silent and Live Auctions. Lion Keith has developed a spreadsheet to check out bidders faster. People were encouraged to make items for the Silent Auction.

Lion Bud reported that he has received 250 tickets for the Club to sell to the Magic Show, to be held Tues. Oct. 22 at the Berry Center. Lion Paul Berry has agreed to help Lion Bud with this project. We need Lions in vests to help that night, which will take the place of our regular meeting night. Tickets are being sold by the promoter at \$15 each. Motion by Lion Bud, seconded by Lion Keith that we sell our free tickets for \$5 each passed. We only receive 25% of the promoter's ticket sales, so this is all monies to our Club. Boys and Girls Country children were gifted tickets last year and the children all enjoyed the performance. President Becca reported that Tiger Scouts can earn a Scouting badge for attending a Magic Show. Lion Bud will ask Lion Merrell to make a flyer.

President Becca passed out Cheer Basket schedules. We will deliver 100 baskets on Sat. Dec. 21, and will need 30+ driving teams that morning. Scouts will start food collection in Nov. We will set up food sorting Wed. and Thurs. Dec. 12 and 13. Kroger has agreed to match pricing since Caninos has now closed. Dr. Lepow, a local dentist, is donating 500 toothbrushes and toothpaste for the stockings. President Becca asked Club members for ideas for Christmas ornaments for each family to place on their Christmas tree that can connect them with our Lions Club Cheer Basket project. It was suggested that she contact Lion Amanda Maldavase, whose husband is a shop teacher and had his classes make plastic ornaments for us one year.

The Jersey Village Fall Festival is coming up. Last year we did KidSight Vision Screening, and we hope to do the same again this year.

Lion Chuck emailed the Form 990 EZ to everyone to review, and needed approval prior to sending it to the IRS. There were no corrections or objections, so he will send.

Lion Keith has found a scheduling app for \$24/year that would allow each Lion to track the hours they spend on Lions projects, from actually working projects, to scheduling and other Lions business. He will discuss at the BOD meeting after the regular meeting.

Lion Bud has discussed with Lion Julie about an app for phones, and will need to discuss with Lion Randy.

President Becca reported that the Membership Committee will present a program at a later date.

Lion Chuck wanted to thank Lion Bob for repairing the PDG tree signs which were broken by the lawn mowers. He forgot to thank him publically at the last meeting, and wanted to be sure to do that tonight. Unfortunately, Lion Bob was absent. Lion Chuck also thanked Lion Keith for the great job done on creating an Excel spreadsheet for use during the Bob Dowden Dinner check out. It will hopefully save time and effort during this process.

We received a Thank You from the Library for allowing them to use our meeting room for their Summer Reading Program.

Lion Paul Yackley was not present, but Lion Chuck reported a security system maintenance problem. The security system drive was cleaned.

Lone Star Pest Control came out during the ceiling renovation and discovered evidence of critters in the attic, and carpenter ants by the large crepe myrtle tree at the side of the building. The ants were treated, and it was unsure if the critter problem was recent or years ago.

Floors were wet mopped after the ceiling was replaced. AC filters have been replaced.

There will be a brief Board of Directors meeting immediately after this meeting.

The next 2 meetings will feature our Texas Lions Campers, with Handicapped Campers on Tues. Sept. 10, and Diabetic Campers on Sept. 24. This is a great meeting to invite prospective members.

Lion Terry dismissed us with '2 roars on 3". Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary