

DISTRICT 35-O MEETING
January 17, 2015
Hosted by the Clermont/Minneola Lions Club

The third District 35-O Meeting for 2014-2015, was held at Minneola City Hall in Minneola, FL. Lion President Nick Jones from the Clermont/Minneola Lions Club called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed everyone. The Pledge of Allegiance led by Lion Tom Bullock, "God Bless America" led by Lion Betty Jones and the invocation by District Chaplin Lion Ruth Levins completed the opening ceremony. President Jones introduced 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Hilaire. VDG Hilaire introduced 1st Vice District Governor Jacquie Tripp who, in turn, introduced District Governor Carolyn Lloyd.

DG Carolyn welcomed all to the third District Meeting followed by an induction of new members and the presentation of Club Excellence Awards to: Inglis Yankeetown, New Smyrna Beach, Ormond By The Sea and Volusia County Lions Clubs. A "Chain of Honor" was hung with the name of each new member in the District being displayed on a link. Names of new members and their sponsors who have joined since the last district meeting were announced and each was presented with a ribbon.

A motion was made by PCC C. David Lloyd and seconded by PID Neil Spencer to approve the meeting minutes from the District Meeting held at Cypress Creek High School in Orlando on November 15, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by PID Neil Spencer and seconded by PCC C. David Lloyd to approve the Financial Report as presented by District Treasurer, PCC Donna Spencer, subject to audit. The motion passed unanimously.

PID Neil Spencer spoke about the Hawaii Convention on June 26-30,2015. The International Show on Saturday night will feature Kenny Loggins. There will be voting for officers at the convention: President, 1st & 2nd VP's, and a vote to reinstate the position of LCI 3rd Vice President. Also on the ballot will be a resolution to decrease the number of International Directors from 14 to 11 in Congressional Area 1, which is the U.S.. Congressional areas 5 and 6 will receive the directors over the next three years. The hotel for the Florida delegation is the Holiday Inn Beachcomber.

PID Neil Spencer announced the Multiple District Convention is in Ocala from April 30 - May 3, 2015. All the details and order forms are in the January/ February 2015 Multiple District 35 Florida and the Bahamas Lions Magazine. PID Neil stressed the importance of supporting the \$1.00 annual increase in Multiple District Dues that will be voted on at the convention. He reminded everyone about the Friday Night Derby Fun Night and encouraged all clubs to enter the race, compete for best 'frock' and best hat!

DG Carolyn announced that all four Governor's have signed a "Conflict Of Interest" form and advised clubs to take action to ensure that they are following the Florida statutes.

DG Carolyn spoke about the District Newsletter and shared that it is one of the important ways we communicate in the District between meetings. "*Lions, if you are not receiving the District 35O Newsletter, please, ask your club President or Secretary "Where's My Newsletter?"*" " If a club is not receiving the newsletter please supply an email address to Cabinet Secretary Lion Donna Norton to be added to the distribution list.

Lion Dr. Lynn Hawkins spoke to the meeting about Service Learning. Amidst the many highlights of her presentation Lion Lynn reported 7000 children were served in our District with weekend backpacks and that the Leo Clubs are doing great this year with increased membership and enthusiasm!

Lion John Bomm presented "Getting Into The Box". When Lion John talks about "getting into the box" he's talking about getting children into box cars --- specifically CM Box Car Racing. The Clermont Minneola Lions support this project and not only has it been great for the area children, it's been good for membership.

Lion Rita Fawcett, District Newsletter Editor, asked everyone to enjoy both the Multiple District Magazine and the monthly District Newsletter. There's lots of good info in both for all Lions. In addition she spoke about the USA Canada Forum. This year's forum will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan September 17th -19th, 2015.

DG Carolyn was excited to share that there were twenty entries into the Peace Poster Contest this year. The District Winner is Meghan D'Arcy sponsored by the New Smyrna Beach Lions Club. She is also winner of the Multiple District competition and advances to the International competition.

DG Carolyn discussed the Conference/ District Meeting in Cocoa Beach in March. District Governors will meet on Thursday and Friday morning. *"Everyone Can Come - this is not just for Governors!"* Friday afternoon there will be classes. "Facebook" will be one of the classes. There will be a line dancing class. Friday evening will be a St. Patrick's celebration with a corned beef/ cabbage dinner. Saturday morning the Diabetes Foundation and the Retina Foundation will meet. There will be screener recertification classes. On Saturday afternoon the final District 35 O Meeting for this Lionistic year will be held. There will be awards and a special necrology service at this event. Saturday evening will be a formal dinner with a Roaring 20's theme. There will be a foundation meeting Sunday morning. More info and meal ticket form will be in the MD Magazine.

Lion Betty Hennighan read out the District Officer Nominations for 2015-2016 and reminded all clubs to vote. 1st Vice District Governor Jackie Tripp endorsed by the Ormond by the Beach Lions Club , has presented her paper work and has been certified to move up to the position of District 35-O Governor for the 2015-2016 year. 2nd Vice District Governor Steve Hilaire, endorsed by the Kissimmee Lions Club, has presented his paper work and has been certified to move up to the position of District 35-O 1st Vice District Governor for the 2015-2016 year. Lion Irving E (Tito) Navarro, endorsed by the Orlando Hispanic Lions Club has presented his paperwork and has been certified as a Candidate for the position of District 35-O 2nd Vice District Governor for the 2015-2016. The election for these offices will be held at the Multiple District 35 Convention in Ocala, Florida on May 2, 2015.

Lunch Break: DG Carolyn recessed the meeting for lunch at 11:45 am. Following a lunch hosted by the Clermont Minneola Lions DG Carolyn called the meeting back to order at 12:45 pm.

United States Congressman Daniel Webster of the 10th District of Florida addressed the meeting. Congressman Webster told the group that the government was good at "cookie cutter" programs where one and all are the same. He went on to say that Lions Clubs have

their finger on the pulse of the community and expressed his personal gratefulness for what Lions do. He presented a flag flown over the Capital of the United States of America in honor of the Clermont Minneola Lions Clubs to Lions Club President Nick Jones.

PDG Norma Callahan updated the group on the "marriage" of the Diabetes Awareness Foundation and the Retinopathy Foundation. She asked that everyone use the new forms and fill them out completely. This is very important for the grant. She announced the upcoming screening dates which can be found on the website. The website is <http://dafmd35.org>.

Lion Mary Yokum discussed the Conklin Center for the Blind's upcoming Night for Sight Gala. She shared President Mary Pezzo's challenge to each club to donate a \$100 basket to be auctioned at the Gala. She suggested smaller clubs get together to donate a basket if necessary. Following the Gala club names will be listed in the District Newsletter and there will be certificates for the District Governors. She reminded everyone that each district's Lions Giving Goal for this year is \$45,000. All districts are currently short of that goal. Please keep the Conklin Center in mind when making your entity donations. Zone Chair Ted Erion was presented with an Amethyst Lion Award.

Lion C. David Lloyd gave the current numbers for the Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind. 28 new eye cases at a full cost of \$128,148 have been handled. Club copays for those cases was \$5.050 with the negotiated savings being \$84,393.00 leaving a total of \$38,206.00. The District Donation to date this year is \$18,870. The foundation has spent \$60,271 in District O. All Lions in good standing are members of the Foundation. District Governor Carolyn asked that all clubs give something to the foundation. The district goal for this year is \$55,000. April 20th is the last day to send contributions to have them counted towards this year's goals. The next Foundation meeting will be on March 15th in Cocoa Beach.

Lion Lois Q. Malecky spoke on behalf of LCIF. There is currently \$27,000 or 17 clubs that have \$1000 or more waiting to be released as a Melvin Jones award. The money can not be used until it is assigned. Please select an award recipient soon if you have over \$1000 deposited.

Lion Ted Erion, Region Chair spoke about "Project Right To Sight". A trailer load of glasses was picked up to go to Ocala to be processed then on to the correctional institute for measurement and repair. Lion Ted made a plea for help in transporting especially to load and unload. Because of this program 30,000 pair of glasses make their way to new faces each year!

Parade of Checks: Cabinet Treasurer- Donna Spencer, PCC reported on the Parade of Checks. A total of \$6,625 was collected for distribution to the entities. (35O Hearing Program \$900, 35O Project Right-To-Sight \$850, Conklin Center \$525, Florida Guide Dogs for the Deaf \$200, Florida Lions Foundation \$1,025, LCIF \$275, Lions Eye Institute for TR \$275, Lions MD 35 Diabetes Awareness \$675, North Florida Eye Foundation \$1000, Southeastern Guide Dogs including Paws for Patriots \$775, Youth Exchange Scholarship Fund \$125).

DG Carolyn made closing remarks thanking everyone for taking time to attend and reminding everyone that the fourth District Meeting will be in March in Cocoa Beach. She thanked Clermont/Minneola Lions for hosting and concluded with "*We are a Pride. We are a family*".

Lion Ruth Levins gave the closing prayer and the meeting was turned back over to Lion President Nick Jones, who adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lion Donna Norton
Cabinet Secretary, District 35-O