

**35-O DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 23, 2016 - Hosted by the Clermont Minneola Lions Club**  
**District Governor Jacqueline Spencer**

The third District 35-O Meeting of 2015-2016, hosted by the Clermont Minneola Lions Club, was held on Saturday January 23, 2016 at the First United Methodist Church-Wesley Center, 950 7th Street, Clermont, FL 34711. Lion Charles E. Neville, President Clermont Minneola Lions Club called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed everyone. Lion Ruth Levins, District Chaplin, gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Lion Edward Whetzel and the opening song "God Bless America" was led by Lion Betty Sue Jones. President Charles E. Neville welcomed everyone to Clermont and introduced 2nd Vice District Governor Irving "Tito" Navarro. 2nd Vice District Governor Navarro introduced 1st Vice District Governor Steve Hilaire.

1st Vice District Governor Steve Hilaire welcomed everyone to the third District Meeting for 2015/2016. He reported that DG Jacquie's absence was due to her loss of her Mom out of state. On a happier note he announced the marriage of our District Governor Jacquie to PID Neil Spencer in December. He thanked everyone for braving the cold, windy weather to attend the meeting. He announced the focus of the meeting would be on our entities and recognition.

PCC C. David Lloyd made a motion to dispense with the reading of and to approve minutes for the 2nd District Cabinet Meeting (2015-2016), held Saturday November 14th, 2015 in Orlando, Florida. The motion was 2nd by 2nd VDG Irving "Tito" Navarro. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by PCC C. David Lloyd and seconded by Zone Chair Ivan Richmond to approve the Financial Report as presented by District Treasurer, PDG Lois Q. Malecky, subject to audit. The motion passed unanimously.

1VDG Steve Hilaire recognized all Past District Governors, GLT, GMT, Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Treasurer, Region Chairs, Zone Chairs, Club Presidents, Melvin Jones Fellows and Progressive Melvin Jones Fellows in attendance.

**Recognition**

1VDG Steve Hilaire presented the following recognition:

Recognition for Extension - (complete with pins:) PDG Dr. Norma Callahan (not present) and PDG Jeannine Thibault.

**Guiding Lions Certificates:**

Gwenyth Wilson (present/ presented)

Ray Siracusa (present / presented)

Irving Navarro (present / presented)

Alan Becker (not present)

Steve Hilaire (present /presented)

Greg Evans (present/ presented)

Jacqueline Tripp Spencer (not present)

Mary Yochum (present/presented)

**1VDG Steve Hilaire reported there are two clubs in status quo. He discussed the "LCI Survey", told anyone with an email address they should have received it, and asked everyone to take time to fill it out. He introduced "Legacy Project" to the group and asked that everyone go back and discuss with their club. He reminded everyone about the Crusader and Pilot awards both with upcoming application submission dates.**

**1VDG Steve Hilaire discussed member attendance at club meetings. Some members can't attend meetings due to work or other reasons or for personal reasons it is difficult for them to sit through a meeting but they do willingly participate in club projects. In the past many clubs have dropped members for non-attendance at meetings. Please don't drop members for not coming to meetings. Communicate with them, keep them informed and involved, and let them participate in the good work Lions do as Lions!**

#### **Entity Presentations:**

**1. Florida Lions Conklin Center - Presenter Lion Robert Kelly, Executive Director of the Conklin Center**

**Lion Robert discussed the new duplex purchased by the Conklin Center to be used for student transition. For a period of time after training students live in off-campus Conklin Center facilities in transition to independent living. (Owning the duplex replaces rental of an apartment). The Center needs help in fixing up the duplex. It can be in the form of money OR if an architect, contractor, etc. wishes to donate their time that would be excellent. He announced the upcoming 2nd annual "Night for Sight" Gala at the beautiful Ocean Center in Daytona Beach. He encouraged everyone to attend the gala!**

**2. Lions Diabetes Awareness Foundation - Presenter Region Chair Lion Vivian Henegar. Lion Vivian shared that there are 100 Lions newly certified to do blood sugar screening Training will be held at the upcoming Council of Governor's meeting and at the convention in Jacksonville. There will also be a "Train the Trainer" class in Orlando on February 20th at the Multiple District Office.**

**3. Florida Lions Diabetic Retinopathy Foundation- Presenter Region Chair Lion Vivian Henegar.**

**The Foundation has been up and running since January 2015 and has been working well for a full year. Forms for screening are available in English, Spanish, Creole, and the Russian translation is in process. The 3rd camera has arrived and the 4th will be coming soon. Certified retina screeners have been busy. Over 300 images have been uploaded to the eye doctor for reading. Statistics to date: Over 55% of the retina screenings are referred to an eye doctor for additional diagnosis and treatment.**

**4. Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind- Presenter Region Chair Helene Thompson. Often times, a club's members hear of an individual who needs eye surgery but has no insurance and insufficient funds to pay for the surgery. The Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind works with local doctors and hospitals to hold down medical costs and stretch our dollars. Many times they are able to negotiate the price down to the point that the Foundation pays less than the Medicaid rate paid by the federal government.**

The portion a club is asked to contribute is very low and affordable. This is your foundation and it needs your support!

**5. Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF)- Presenter PDG /Cabinet Treasurer Lion Lois Q. Malecky.**

LCIF has put forth a challenge to all Lions --Contribute just \$5.00 per Lion! District O has always been known as the "Outstanding District" --let's prove we still are! Lion Lois is asking every club to step up and meet this challenge! It will make a difference!

**6. Project Right To Sight - Presenter Lion Ted Erion**

This project combines the group efforts of the Lions Clubs and Eye Care Professionals to provide reconditioned, recycled eye glasses, at no cost, to homeless and uninsured people living in our Central Florida Community. Eye glasses are also provided for Vision Projects to aid people in need throughout the world. Lion Ted shared recent accomplishments of this entity. 114,334 -the number of eyeglasses in the past 9 months. Of these 5787 stayed in Florida! Project Right to Sight needs your help! Volunteers are needed to collect, transport, sort and dispense glasses.

**7. District 35-O Hearing Program, Inc - Presenter Lion Windy Wilson**

Lion Wendy shared general information about the Hearing Program. She then asked for each Lions Club in District O to have a "Hearing Chairman". Please submit the chairman's name in time for it to be published in the upcoming 2016-2017 District Directory. The Hearing Program needs your help - please consider hearing when making club contributions!

MD GLT Lion Larry Feldhusen announced the April 7-10, 2016 Southeastern Lions Leadership Institute (Lions of Florida MD-35 RLLI). He told the group the about the beautiful facility where this meeting will be held: Life Enrichment Center, 4991 Picciola Rd., Fruitland Park, FL 34731 --and what an exceptional opportunity hosting this meeting with LCI staff in attendance is for our District. The flyer is on the District Website or contact Lion Larry for additional information.

2nd Vice District Governor Irving "Tito" Navarro thanked everyone for the great job being done this year across the district ending with encouragement to "Keep On Keeping On"! He announced Distinct 35 O was recognized as the best in reporting in the State of Florida.

1VDG Steve announced the MD Convention in Jacksonville April 28th - May 1st, 2016. We will have an International Vice President as a special guest at the convention. PID Neil Spencer is asking for photos of Lion members who passed away this year for the necrology service. Remember the International Convention in Japan June 24-28, 2016. The S.E. Breakfast at the International Convention will be hosted by Georgia.

2nd Vice District Governor Candidates for 2016/2017 - Both candidates for 2nd VDG 2016/2017 , Zone Chair Jacqueline Centeno and Region Chair Helene Thompson , were in attendance. Both spoke to attendees about who they are, their history, and why they wish to be 2nd VDG, a position leading to District Governor, during the 2016/2017 Lions year.

**Tail Twister Lion Yokum has some fun with ten volunteers ---"Heads or Tails" which was enjoyed by all present and appeared to be justly rewarded when the "pot" was passed. Thank You Lion Mary for keeping us laughing!**

**Parade of Checks --PDG Lois Q. Malecky, District Treasurer. Lion Lois has a special request that will speed up the processing of the Parade of Checks at the District Meetings. Please use 1 envelope per club, for all checks, and DO NOT seal the envelope. The total donated today is \$21, 675.00 ! Way to go District O!**

**1st VDG Steve Hilaire thanked the Clermont Minneola club for being a wonderful host and for a great lunch! He again thanked all Lions who came to the meeting and wished everyone a safe trip home.**

**District Chaplin Ruth Levins gave the benediction.**

**President Charlie Neville, President of the Clermont Minneola Lions Club adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lion Donna Norton, Cabinet Secretary 35-O**