

DISTRICT 35-O MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 2014

Hosted by the South Orange County Lions Club & Cypress Creek HS Leos

The second 35-O District Meeting for 2014-2015, held at Cypress Creek High School in Orlando. Lion President Jeanette Collier from the Orange County Lions Club called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and welcomed everyone to Orlando. Presentation of the Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance, the "*Star Spangled Banner*" were conducted by the Cypress Creek High JROTC followed by the singing of "*God Bless America*". District Chaplin Lion Ruth Levins gave the Invocation. President Collier 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 second District Meeting. In her opening remarks DG Carolyn thanked the Cypress Creek JROTC group for their presentation. She advised all present that beginning June 2018 the Lions Club International Magazine and the MD 35-O Florida and the Bahamas Magazine are both going digital. Next she addressed the new regulations in Florida for Non-Profits - House Bill 629. This will help to weed out groups calling themselves "non-profits" that are not. If clubs need help with either their 990N (Federal) or their Solicitation of Contributions (State of Florida) filings they should ask the District Secretary or District Treasurer. In addition, each club is required to file Conflict of Interest disclosures. She told clubs to "be careful" to stay in compliance. Clubs can be shut down or face stiff fines for not filing the required paperwork in a timely manner. DG Carolyn congratulated clubs that are using the Club Excellence program and encouraged those clubs not using it to do so. DG Carolyn reminded everyone that each District Governor sets goals for their district. One of the District 35O goals is to turn in our Service Activity Reports. If you don't understand them or haven't done them, let your Zone Chair know immediately. A club can complete their own Service Activity Report for up to three months past the due date. After that you will need assistance from your Zone Chair to complete old reports. She also asked clubs to remember to include non-Lions in your club activities. If people see Lions doing good work and having a good time they will want to be a part of this. Remember to let them know all funds collected from the public go back to the public. DG Carolyn asked each club to keep a list of their Training activities and to let their Zone Chair know. There are great classes in MyLCI. Courses have "open book" tests. The intent is for Lions to learn.

A motion was made by PID Neil Spencer and seconded by PDG Anne Greer to approve the meeting minutes from the District Meeting held in Homosassa, FL on August 16, 2014. The motion passed unanimously.

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

DG Carolyn recognized the Award Winning Kissimmee Lions Club who met membership goals for year around growth in 2013 & 2014. They received a banner patch.

DG Carolyn recognized GLT Coordinator Greg Evans and Lion Mary Yokum as new Certified Guiding Lions and presented them with the C.G.L. certificates.

DG Carolyn asked all PDG's to stand and be recognized. IPDG Al Becker received a "Thank You" certificate from International Past President Barry Palmer.

DG Carolyn reported on District Membership --The District is up 21 members and the Multiple District is up 124 members this year to date. Getting new members and new clubs is important. DG Carolyn recognized the new Auburndale Polk County Club.

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.

Joel Clark, Manager for Capital Projects at Southeast Guide Dogs and a puppy raiser himself , accompanied by Helen Arnold and several guide dogs, gave a very informative, lively and entertaining presentation about Southeast Guide Dogs. He asked everyone to be aware of and support the multiple fundraisers coming up.

NOMINATIONS: Lions Carol Reichard , District Chairman of Nominations and Resolutions, announced the intent to seek the office of 2nd VDG for District 35 O by Tito Navarro, the intent to advance to 1st VDG from 2nd VDG by Steve Hilaire and the intent to advance to District Governor by 1st VDG Jacquie Tripp. All announcements were followed by rousing applause.

Lunch Break

PDG Norma Callahan gave an update for the Diabetes Awareness foundation. She announced the upcoming screening dates which can be found on the website. The website is <http://dafmd35.org>. She also announced if you print your own procedure booklet the cost for training is reduced from \$25.00 to \$10.00. Activity associated with the grant is going very well!

Lion Robert Kelly explained the Conklin Center For the Blind's mission to train individuals suffering from blindness with an additional disability to live an independent life and the Blind Babies Program. Lions were reminded about the Mar 26 Night for Sight Gala, the "State of Vision" license plates, Life Membership Programs and the center also needs help with projects. For example, laundry equipment that is 15 years old needs replacing.

Lion Anne Greer, PDG challenged every Lions Club in the District to have a fundraiser where the funds received are dedicated to the Florida Lions Foundation for the Blind. All Lions in good standing are members of the Foundation.

Lion Lois Malecky, PDG reminded everyone about the LCIF Contributing Member contribution program. This is an annual program that recognizes gifts of \$20, \$50 and \$100 per calendar year. Donors receive a bronze, silver or gold lapel pin identifying the fiscal year in which the donation is made. She also spoke about the LCIF Measles Initiative - One Shot, One Life. District 35O giving to date for this fiscal year is \$57,126.25.

Lion Ted Erion, Region Chair spoke about "Project Right To Sight". Help is needed for transportation of collected glasses.

Amy Moring from the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind in St. Augustine, FL gave a presentation to the group about this organization. Established in 1885, FSDB is a fully accredited Pre-K and K-12 state public school and outreach center available tuition-free to

eligible deaf/hard of hearing or blind/visually impaired students. Currently, FSDB serves about 600 students on campus in Pre-K and K-12 academic programs, as well as about 400 infants and toddlers and their families across the state of Florida through Parent Service Programs.

1st VDG Jacquie Tripp asked everyone to remember to record their service activity and activity hours towards the Centennial Challenge of 100 Million Served! The website for the Challenge is www.Lions100.org .

2nd VDG Steve Hilaire asked Lions to mentor new Lions. Mentoring is a way to "Shut the back door," and keep members!

Parade of Checks:

Cabinet Treasurer- Donna Spencer, PCC reported on the Parade of Checks. A total of \$20,225 was collected for distribution to the entities. (35O Hearing Program \$1600, 35O Project Right-To-Sight \$1350, Conklin Center \$3,175, Florida Diabetes Camp Winona \$1,000, Diabetes Awareness \$1,175, Florida Guide Dogs for the Deaf \$125, Florida Lions Eye Bank (Miami) \$350, Florida Lions Foundation \$2,375, LCIF \$2,025, Leader Dogs FTB \$50, Lions Eye Institute for TR \$525, North Florida Eye Foundation \$250, Southeastern Guide Dogs including Paws for Patriots \$4,750, Youth Exchange Scholarship Fund \$125, Central Florida Eye & Tissue \$750, Florida Braille Assoc \$600.

Lion Neil Spencer, PID announced the Hawaii Convention dates - June 26-30, 2015. MD 35 Florida and the Bahamas will be the host of the South East Breakfast on June 29th at 7:00 a.m. The Multiple District, State Convention, will be held in Ocala, FL April 30—May 3, 2015. Remember to work on your entry for Best Horse, Best Hat and Best Derby Day Outfit (Think Scarlett O'Hara or Pretty Woman). An important issue is dues. The MD will be asking for an increase of \$1.00 per member per year. The MD Office is not a fund raising office. It is administration only for the District. The current budget is \$5800 short of what is needed to run the district. Magazine finances have nothing to do with the district's cost increase.

DG Carolyn made closing remarks thanking everyone for taking time to attend and reminding everyone that the third District Meeting will be January 17th, at Minneola City Hall - Clermont Minneola Lions Hosting. She 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 Jeanette Collier, who adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

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