

## **SUMM Fellowship Meeting MINUTES 6:30 PM 16 May 2018**

1. **Welcome/Concerns/Joys/Prayers** – President Jim, VP David, Chaplain John
2. **Next Fellowship Meeting & Program is Wednesday at 6:30 pm, 20 June LL#13.**
3. **Tonight's Guest Speaker** – Mr. Tom Snively, of the Lions Club, and visually impaired Gracie and her leader dog, Stormy presented information about the "***Seeing Eye Dog Program.***" A few highlights: there are 10 million visually impaired in USA; only 2% of the blind have a dog; cost to fully train a dog is \$45,000; cost to the blind person is zero; takes 5 months to train a dog; all this is funded by the Lions; Gracie and Stormy demonstrated techniques; question and answer period followed. Attachments follow below.

Our Meal = Grilled burgers and dogs (cooks Jim and David), slaw, potato salad, cake, tea, coffee.

4. **Peanut Ministry** – Raw on hand is 1500 pounds. Finished on hand 25 cases. Next cooking is Monday at 9:00am, 21May, in the room right next door, the Peanut Kitchen (Bldg 1, LL).
5. **Treasurer's Report** – 30 April checking account balance \$9,276.64. Balance this date 2017 \$18,215.
6. **Men's Visitation Program** – SUMM is seeking someone to oversee this ministry. Call Al Smith for info...252-723-7742.
7. **Men's Bible Study** – now on summer break. Will resume Wednesday mornings Sep 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30AM in this room, Bldg 1, LL#13. Our facilitators Bill Smith and John Lee emphasize that **all men are invited** and may attend any or all sessions...no reservations needed...come as you choose.
8. **New & Old Business** –
  - A. SUMM has 8 high school scholarship applications. We have budgeted for 7 at \$500 each.
  - B. **Yard Sale** collected over \$9,000, net about \$7700.
  - C. **Fish Fry** netted \$1,463 to each, Scouts and ASP.
  - D. **SUMM Welcome Cards** – copy to all with request for input as to how we should use.
  - E. **Welcome** to new men—Brian Mc Inerney and Lee Patrick.
9. **Closed the meeting in Prayer** – Chaplain John Lee

## WHEN YOU MEET A LEADER DOG

Our mothers taught us to "mind our manners," and most of us still follow those early lessons. There is one situation, however, your mother probably didn't cover—**how to act when you meet a Leader Dog.**



### A LEADER DOG IS A WORKING DOG

Leader Dogs are friendly animals that like attention. However, it is important that most of this attention comes from their human partners.

#### When you encounter a Leader Dog:

- Do not pet a dog in harness.
- Ask the handler's permission before touching the dog or making eye contact. Eye contact can distract the dog, so always interact with the person—not the animal.

### A PERSON USING A LEADER DOG IS INDEPENDENT

Often, if a visually impaired person needs assistance, he will ask for it. If it appears the person needs help, ASK FIRST, then:

- Approach the person on her right side, as the Leader Dog is usually on the left.
- Never startle her by grabbing her arm.
- Do not take hold of the Leader Dog or its harness.

### ASSISTING WITH VERBAL DIRECTIONS

When delivering directions to a person who is blind or visually impaired:

- Speak to the person—not the dog.
- Do not use hand signals such as pointing or broad statements like "It's over there."
- Use detailed, easy-to-follow indicators like "Go north two blocks, then east" or "Turn left and go two blocks."

### NEVER OFFER FOOD TO A LEADER DOG

Leader Dog handlers follow a veterinarian-prescribed diet for their animals. Treats should only be given to a Leader Dog by its human partner.

*continued...*

## LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL & LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

### A Shared History

**1917** - Melvin Jones founds Lions Clubs International.

**1925** - Helen Keller challenges Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness."

**1938** - Three Lions establish Leader Dogs for the Blind to train guide dogs.

**1953** - Melvin Jones gives Leader Dog his personal endorsement.

**1970s** - Leader Dog offers Summer District Governor Visits to Lions leadership nationwide.

**2002** - Lions help Leader Dog reach capital campaign goal for a new residence facility.

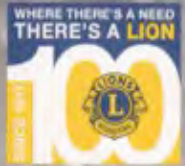
**2006** - Leader Dog President Bill Hansen elected International Director.

**2013** - LION Magazine lists Leader Dog among the "10 Brilliant Breakthroughs in Service."

**2014** - Leader Dog celebrates 75 years of service having paired over 14,500 guide dogs with people who are blind, visually impaired or Deaf-Blind.

**2016** - LION Magazine lists visiting Leader Dog as #31 in "How Lionistic are You?" quiz.

**2016** - Lions help Leader Dog reach its \$14.5 million capital campaign goal to renovate its kennel into a Canine Development Center.



*Congratulations on 100 Years of Service!*





## Human Guide Techniques

### Basic Human Guide Method

1. Guide asks traveler if he needs assistance and then contacts the back of the traveler's hand with the back of her hand.
2. Traveler moves his hand up the guide's arm and grips the guide's arm just above her elbow. Traveler decides which arm they'd like to hold.
3. Traveler walks a half step behind the guide.



### Narrow Passageways

1. Guide verbally indicates a narrow passage is ahead.
2. Guide moves arm toward the small of his back.
3. Traveler extends arm *lto avoid stepping on the guide's heels* and moves directly behind the guide. Guide can extend his arm for more space.
4. After narrow passage is passed, guide returns his arm to the original position.



### Changing Directions

1. Guide verbally indicates the need to turn in the opposite direction.
2. Guide initiates the turn by stepping in front of the traveler.

### Transferring Sides

1. Guide or traveler indicates the need to transfer sides.
2. Traveler trails the guide's back with her free hand and establishes the original position on the guide's opposite arm.

### Doorways

1. Guide indicates in which direction the door swings open (*Traveler needs to be on the hinge side of the door, so it may be necessary to transfer sides!*).
2. When guide opens the door, the traveler assumes a forearm protective position.
3. Traveler will contact the door and push it further open. Guide confirms that the traveler has control of the door and then releases the door.
4. Traveler will release the door once he has cleared it and then resumes the original position.



### Targeting

1. Guide brings the traveler close to desired object.
2. Guide places her hand on the object and the traveler trails his hand down the guide's arm to locate the object.



### Stairs and Curbs

1. Guide approaches step/curb and verbally indicates to the traveler that they are approaching ascending or descending stairs/curbs.
2. Guide pauses at the first step and the traveler moves alongside the guide.
3. Guide takes the first step and the traveler follows one step behind.
4. Guide pauses at the end of the stairs to indicate the last step, and then resumes the original position and pace.

### Overall Considerations

Communication is most important when using the human guide technique. Do not be afraid to offer assistance, but do not force it upon anyone. It is the guide's responsibility to communicate location, surrounding environment, terrain changes, etc. It is very important to be alert—judgment and timing of movements are the guide's responsibility. Never leave the traveler without informing him that you are doing so.



**\*If the traveler has a guide dog, he may prefer to "follow." Ask the traveler's preference and follow his instructions. If the traveler elects to be guided, he should drop the harness handle to signal to his dog that it is off duty.**

**People First Language** puts the person before the disability, because visual impairment is just one characteristic of the person.

For example: "Peter is a man who is blind," not "Peter is a blind man."