

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

We are on the worldwide web: www.sunriseoptimist.org

President Dave Ireland opened the meeting this morning at 6:45. I did not get a count of attendance this morning.

Frank Law gave the invocation and **Dale Long** led the flag salute.

Gary Slimmer introduced “**Jude**” **Brian Quinn** as his guest this morning. Brian and his wife, Jennifer, live at 2133 NW 47th Ct. They have 4 children, Payron, Paige, Camron, and Josephine. Brian is employed by BNSF and was recently transferred here from Chicago. I believe that he is an engineer, so is on the road quite a bit. Welcome to the club, Jude.

There were several members with birthdays this week, but only 1 was brave enough to show up. **Linda Lanning** stood bravely in front of the club while the midnight choir congratulated her with the birthday song(?). She then asked Jude if by any chance he had any musical training that he could help out with the choir.

President Dave Ireland installed new members **Dale Long** and **Gary Starr** into the club and presented their pins and packets.

We had our monthly 50/50 drawing and **Ben Brower** was the lucky winner of \$ 31.00.

Kieth Bodine reported that we made approximately \$ 5300 from the Christmas tree sales this year.

There will be a SOC Board meeting, next Tuesday, 01/13/09 at 6:30.

Chuck Sodergren’s Suggestions for Research Projects.

1. 1825 Treaty give 23 half-breed Kansas tribe Indians the land on the north bank of the Kansas River. The Gonvil, Papan, and Curtis families. Laying out the town of “Eugene” in 1865. 1867 Eugene is annexed and becomes “North Topeka.”
2. The early day towns of Shorey, Indianola, Rochester, Kiro, Calhoun, Kilmer, Muddy Creek and Elmont. The boundary changes of Shawnee and Jackson counties.

3. Slavery and prohibition issues. Papans Landing, the Melan and Topeka Blvd bridges and bridges over area creeks.
4. Early day maps, streets, highways, street cars, bus routes, the historic cloverleaf, underground railroad, New Soldier Channel walking trail.
5. One room schools and Rural School Districts.
6. The floods of 1844, 1903, 1951, and most recent less serious floods.
7. Topeka district schools and Seaman district schools. (Each school has an interesting history) Superintendents, principals, and teachers. Curtis Jr High, Quincy, Grant, etc. Famous graduates.
8. Downtown North Topeka businesses.
9. Union Pacific and Rock Island Railroads. The fight on where to locate. The end of Indianola, U.P, and Elmont Stations. Abandoned lines.

There will be more projects listed as space permits.

Next week – Student of the Month and Nancy Daniels, CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Topeka.

Today’s program was Don Craig, founder and head coach of Topeka Rowing Association. Topeka Rowing is now 40 years old and has come a long way since its founding in 1969 as The Washburn University Rowing Crew. With 13 men & 1 boat, and no dock, their beginning was very humble. He officiated at the ’84 and ’96 Olympic Games, 1994 Goodwill Games in St. Petersburg, Russia and other world championships in Canada and Europe.

Closed with the Creed.



SUNRISE OPTIMIST
NORTH TOPEKA
 Meetings: Every
 Tuesday 6:45 AM
 720 NW 50th St, Topeka