

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

Celebrating over 50 years of service to Youth & North Topeka!

Kyle McNorton called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM at the Viking Grill with 19 attending. Gary Slimmer gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

BIRTHDAYS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

With COVID-19 allowing group of 100, basketball league will start February 6 with games at Great Life gyms. Baseball & football registration are open. KC Chiefs players union has scholarships. Preschool football costs \$10 for reversible jersey, water bottle, participation medal & maybe preseason Chiefs game ticket.

Members with keys to Optimist

Building: ASAP call Larry Zirkle, 785-230-2256. To turn on/off security system, you will need 4 digit security code. Old code will be disabled on February 13.

Optimist Essay Contest: “Reaching Your Dreams By Choosing Optimism”
Winner of the 4 contestants will read essay at February 16 club meeting.

Program: Jon Haas, Haas Metal Engineering, HME Inc.

He grew up in the Rochester grade school neighborhood, graduated from Seaman high school where he played football & wrestling, KU undergraduate and started Master’s in engineering management.

While commuting to KU for master’s degree, he and his buddy developed a business plan and started an independent fabricator business in the former fire station on North Topeka Boulevard, but location not zoned for that.

In 1996, he started HME Inc on Button Road which now employs over 400 in buildings totaling over 200,000 sq ft. The web site says it is AISC certified as a leading provider of high-quality structural steel and custom metal fabrication.

In 2003, they had the biggest backlog at the same time that steel prices doubled after bids awarded. In 2008, they had no layoffs and survived with a 32 hr/week. In 2014, they had three projects simultaneously totaling \$24 million and contracted out work.

HME also owns Cycle Zone Power Sports and Topeka Foundry & Iron Works.

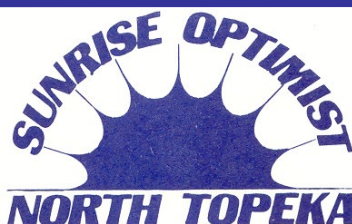
Looking Ahead:

February 2: Don Hughes, Kansas Highway Patrol

President’s Quote: “HOPE: we don’t know what tomorrow will be, yet we set our alarm clock to find out.”

- unknown

Closed with the
OPTIMIST CREED.



Meetings: Every
Tuesday 6:45 AM
720 NW 50th St, Topeka