

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

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

Vice President Dave Ireland was standing in for President Rocky Fund and promptly rang the bell this morning at 6:45 a.m. There were about 40 in attendance this morning.

Dean Schmidt gave the invocation and **Josey McNorton** led the flag salute.

V-P Dave mentioned that today was Worldwide Earth Day and suggested we all go out and plant a tree.

Dave Jackson introduced **Barbara Barnard** as a visitor to the club this morning. Barbara is the new branch manager of Community National Bank located at the corner of NW US Highway 24 and NW Rochester Road. Although Barbara and Husband Charles Waetzig live in SE Shawnee County, Dave is trying to convince them to move or build in the Northland. Barb stays busy volunteering for Junior Achievement, the Marian Clinic, the Sales and Marketing Executives and has served for several years with the Ethics Commission. Barbara lists scrap booking as one of her hobbies, and the proud owner of two(2) great Boston terriers. And by the way she is a member of the White Lakes Optimist Club.

Back for a second visit was **Jim Zeller**. Jim and his family live at 3507 NW Cambridge Ave. Jim has decided to campaign for the 18th State Senatorial seat in Kansas. Jim also turned in his application along with a check, for his membership in the **Sunrise Optimist Club**.

Kyle McNorton introduced son **Josey** who is an 8th grader at Logan Jr. High. Josey is working on a Eagle Scout project, and will be building some covers for the dugouts on one of the T-ball diamonds.

Dave Jackson reminded and distributed to members the "free" breakfast card to use as an invitation for guests to come to a club meeting.

The club wishes **Bruce Lanning** and **Karen Nicolay** quick recovery from recent hospital stays.

Celebrating Birthdays this week are Chris Brown and Gary Domer. Neither was in attendance so the Sunrise choir rested the vocal chords.

The Kansas District-Optimist International held its 3rd Quarter meeting this past weekend at the Holiday Inn Holidome. The Sunrise Club was in charge of the Hospitality Room for the meeting. A big thank you to Rocky and Linda Fund as they set things up and supplied most of the food and drink for the Hospitality Room. Also helping with the Hospitality Room were Keith Bodine, Charlie and Bert Galligher, Marvin and Mary Smith, Bruce and Linda Lanning, and Dave and Karen Ireland. The highlight of the weekend was the District Oratorical Contest which was held on Saturday afternoon. The winner of the Girl's competition and a \$1,500 scholarship was **Lydia Gibson**, who was sponsored by the Sunrise Optimist Club.

Dave Stotts announced that the Goodyear Retirees Club is sponsoring a trip to Nebraska City to visit the **Arbor Day Farm Tree Adventure** on May 19th. There are still a few seats left on the bus, so if you are interested, contact Dave.

Charles Nicolay introduced **Madan Rattan**, who presented the program this morning. Madan is the owner of the property where the Country Inn used to be on NW US Highway 24 and also ran the Coffee Break Café at this location. The Coffee Break Café has now relocated to SW 21st & Urish Road while renovations are made to the former site of the Country Inn. Madan came to the US in 1979 from India with \$6 in his pocket. At that time he had a brother who was a surgeon in Lincoln, Nebraska so he settled there, and enrolled at the University of Nebraska. He says that he could read and write English fairly well at that time but had a difficult time speaking the language. It was during a business meeting in 1999 in the Kansas City area that he met someone from Topeka that was going

to Omaha the next day so he decided to catch a ride with them. They spent a miserable night at the Country Inn in Topeka but did plant the seed for ownership of a business in Topeka. From that humble beginning we will soon see a new 4-story, 81-room Holiday Inn Express, along with a Dickey's Barbeque and of course The Coffee Break Café.


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