

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

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

Ernie Douglas called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM. Lloyd Becker gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

BIRTHDAYS: Bruce Lanning (former member)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Summer Baseball, Softball and T-ball registration began June 8 with over 500 participants. The fund raiser is on-line at <https://www.shopfund.com/>. The concession stand needs 3 workers each night to include sanitizing the public restrooms. There will be limited offerings due to COVID-19 public health restrictions; no hot dogs, nachos, popcorn and canned soda/Gatorade.

Bruce Lanning & Dave Stotts have been mowing the complex regularly. Larry Zirkle painted the inside of the building during the pandemic shut down. Building rentals for graduation and other events are scheduled in July and August.

Club board meeting moved to next Tuesday, 3:30 pm, June 16, Gary Domer's office.

Optimist International Virtual Convention, June 27 & 28, 3 hours/day, \$35 registration with Kansas District pays registration for first 100 members that register at
<https://www.optimist.org/convention>

PROGRAM: Herman Jones, Supt of Kansas Highway Patrol.

He started a career in law enforcement in the late 1970s and the Highway Patrol at the suggestion of Dick Barta with a goal to become a captain, not Shawnee county sheriff or HP superintendent. As a young black man in Kansas City, he experienced police stops but no driving violations.

Due to COVID-19, the norm changed. We are social animals and that was restricted. HP Officers approached cars on the passenger side, took photos of driver's licenses, gloved hands to give a traffic ticket, sanitized HP cars after offender taken to jail. With fewer vehicles on the road, traffic deaths in Kansas and surrounding states for two months declined by nearly half. Tickets for speeding, DWI, seat belts & inattentive driving increased.

Why are we not reactive to 35 traffic fatalities in 2019 in a similar manner as a person being shot and killed? A traffic fatality is violent.

In 2020, a few patrol cars will return to the 1930s traditional blue & grey colors. Purchasing multi-colored cars, e.g. all white, are less costly to prepare cars for sale after HP usage.

Looking Ahead:

June 16: Mike Monaghan, Seaman High School Principal

President's Quote:

"Sacrifice is a part of life. It's supposed to be. It's not something to regret. It's something to aspire to."

Closed with the
OPTIMIST CREED.

