

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

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

President Maginot opened the meeting at 6:45

Frank Law gave the invocation. **Chuck Sodergren** led us in the flag salute.

We welcomed new member, **Steve Ebberts**, City of Topeka Municipal Court Judge. Steve lives at 1622 NW 33rd Pl. with his wife Mendy and daughter Lauren, age 7, and son Grant, age 10 months. Steve was recruited by **Gary Domer**.

The weekly drawing was won by **Maurice Minihan**. **John Rea** won the progressive pot.

We are placing special emphasis this month on "To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble"

Happy Birthday to **Rick Woodbury, Dean Burrell, Kent Hurn, and Mike Brier**.

Don't miss the North Topeka Community Band concert this Monday at 7:30 PM at Garfield Park.

The Club election of officers will take place on July 13th. Contact **Gary Domer** to nominate someone. We need three board members and a president-elect.

Alan Rose reported on our golf tournament. Plan to help on July 30th.

Steve Schiffelbein reported on our baseball program. Tournaments are set to begin at 8 AM on the weekends of July 16-17 (softball) and July 23-24 (baseball).

Dan Lill reported that Pizza pick-up day is July 22nd. Plan to help from 4-8 that day. Concessions sales have been very successful. We need help on tournament weekends

The Sunflower Games needs help taking admissions at basketball games on July 23-25.

Program- Bette Allen, Executive Director of The Great Overland Station. She told about the upcoming railroad park, 3rd Topeka Railroad Festival (August 21st), the city park in the Curtis

fly-off area, excursion train rides, Nov. 11th Veterans Day event, traveling and permanent exhibits, memberships, brick sales, facility rentals, staffing, and the project of moving railroad cars and a Depot from near Overbrook to Topeka. They have over 300 supporting members, two full-time staff, and 32 dedicated volunteers. The Great Overland Station is part of a larger plan to revitalize the downtown North Topeka area.

Future Programs:

July 13- **Shelly Buhler**, County Commissioner and election of officers.

July 20- Topeka Policeman, **Terry Ginn**, on gangs and graffiti.

July 27- **Lt. Robert Baker**, Kansas highway patrol officer on new traffic laws now in effect.

August 10- **Todd Domer**, Kansas Livestock Assn.

Mud Puddles and Dandelions

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. My kids see flowers for Mom and blowing white fluff you can wish on. When I look at an old drunk and he smiles at me, I see a person who probably wants money and I look away. My kids see someone smiling at them and they smile back.

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry a tune and don't have much rhythm so I sit self-consciously and listen. My kids feel the beat and move to it. They sing out the words. If they don't know them, they make up their own.

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up my hair and pulling me back when I walk. My kids close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it, until they fall to the ground laughing. When I pray, I say thee and thou and grant me this, give me that. My kids say, "Hi God! Thanks for my toys and my friends. Please keep the bad dreams away tonight. Sorry, I don't want to go to Heaven yet. I would miss my Mommy and Daddy." When I see a mud puddle I step around it. I see muddy shoes and dirty carpets. My kids sit in it. They see dams to build, rivers to cross

and worms to play with. I wonder if we are given children to teach or to learn from? No wonder God loves the little children!! "Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things. Just a reminder about the important things in life. I wish you mud puddles and dandelions.

Closed with the Creed

