

Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Chaplain Sidney Sandridge gave today's devotional, and followed this by leading us in the pledge of allegiance. Pres. Jim Roe passed around three items for member's attention. The first was his personal note of thanks to the club for remembering him during his recent bereavement, and the second and third were pictures of Optimists recently appearing in the Times: Patti Walker and Nancy Vaughn.



Tom Casteel introduced our speaker, Dr. Carolyn Russo, from Huntsville Hospital. Dr. Russo is a graduate of UCLA's Medical School, specializing in oncology. She targeted three types of cancers in her remarks. First, she described retinal cancer in the eyes of children, sometimes detected and treatable as early as one month old. Then she told of her work with children having leukemia. Early detection has resulted in steadily increasing rates of survival over the past several years. Finally, she addressed cutting-edge research ongoing at St. Jude's in Memphis and Washington University in St. Louis. Focused therapy to attack and destroy cancerous cells has become increasingly effective. She mentioned that her husband's work at Hudson Alpha is directly in this field, and is actually the reason she came to Huntsville. She added that she follows the progress of our beloved Logan McElyea on a regular basis.

Pres. Jim encouraged all to plan to attend our Oratorical Contest Saturday, March 12 at the ORC, starting at 9:00am, so try to be there a little early. Jim asked if all judges and the timekeeper had been briefed, and that our room at the ORC had been reserved, since other community events are often scheduled for that room. Chairman Jesse Lang will verify the room's availability. As a back-up, Gay Pepper offered a room at First Commercial Bank on Whitesburg where our Board meets, if needed. Be sure to check your e-mail on Friday for any changes.

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Al Renz circulated a sign-up sheet for our April 7 luncheon meeting at the DHI, featuring Country & Western artist Christiana Lynn. He's expecting about 40 eaters, but needs confirmation by March 31. Al, furthermore, said the playground's first phase is completed and has passed city inspection. He invites all to drive out there and see firsthand what has been installed.

Carl W.



CALENDAR

- 3/12 Saturday 9:00 am Optimist Recreation Center
Club Oratorical Contest
- 3/17 Thursday 11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food Tom Casteel
- 3/24 Thurs. 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Tom Casteel
- 3/31 Thurs. 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Tom Casteel
- 4/7 Thurs. 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
Country Western Singer - Cristina Lynn
- 4/14 Thurs. 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Al Renz
- 4/21 Thursday 11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food Al Renz

Optimistic Quote of The Week

" Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence"

Helen Keller