



Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Chaplain Sidney Sandridge opened our gathering with a prayer and then led us in the pledge of allegiance. Pres. Jim Roe asked for introduction of any guests and VP Jim Pepper's guest was, from the Huntsville Times, Jackie Johnson. Zack offered to sponsor her into club membership and he added that he felt sure the Times would pay her dues. She said she'd look into it. Adding to our roster an employee from the newspaper would be a plumb.

Al Renz asked members to eat out Monday night at Logan's Roadhouse, where Optimists and Kiwanians will be serving and collecting tips earmarked for our playground. Furthermore, Al said plaques are being prepared to be permanently attached to major playground equipment, including the donor's name. More on this next time. I think Al said plaques start at \$200.

Jack Fauble passed out information on getting to our picnic, requiring one turn from going north on Highway 53 (Ardmore Highway) to west on Harvest Road at the yellow light. Then travel 2.3 miles to the Poor Farm at 30149 Harvest Road in Limestone County. Call (256) 771-1092 if you get lost. A wide variety of games, activities and food is planned. Please bring a folding chair and a covered dish or dessert to share.



Duane introduced Barbara Nash of Barbara Nash & Associates to give her unique first-hand impressions of China. Along with her husband who is a band director in Madison and her sons she organized a concert tour for the Madison Jazz (formed in 2003) to play American music in 11 cities in that country.

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Many in the concert audiences had never before seen an American nor heard their music. Madison Jazz gave them a good taste, starting with sounds from the 1920s and going through the big band favorites and beyond. There were 35 musicians in the group, from ages 14 to 23, and Barbara described some exciting experiences.

She was especially impressed by the growing Chinese economy. Major cities have 3 and 4 times the population of NYC, and she showed pictures of cranes at work across the horizon building high-rise apartments and offices 24/7. Evidence of old China and new rich China were everywhere. Manufacturing is going at breakneck speed with 80% of products being exported.

Wages are low by our standards while pollution is high due to inexpensive coal-fired factories, but she is concerned that their dedicated hard work and determination for excellence will overcome their shortcomings, and that their strong economic growth should be a concern for today's world leading countries. Hopefully, a taste of the good life, as we know it, will slow down this locomotive.

Clyde Nevins won the attendance prize.



Optimistic Quote of The Week

" Just tell yourself, Duckie, you're really quite lucky. "

Dr. Seuss

CALENDAR

- 8/18 Thursday 11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food - Duane Plank
- 8/25 Thursday - **No Meeting**
- 8/27 Saturday 2:00 pm Jack Fauble's Farm
Picnic with Youth Clubs
- 9/1 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
Melvin Allen - Harvest Youth Club
- 9/6 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank
Board Meeting
- 9/8 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Jim Pepper
- 9/15 Thursday 11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food - Al Renz
- 9/22 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Jim Pepper
- 9/24 Saturday 7:30 to 11:30 Cooper House
Central Presbyterian
Pancake Breakfast for Hawthorne Conservatory
- 9-29 Thursday TBA pm TBA
Installation of Officers

OPTIMIST PICNIC at the POOR FARM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011 2:00 PM

30149 HARVEST ROAD

HOSTS: JACK and PATTI FAUBLE

QUESTIONS - 256-771-1092

Bring a Covered Dish or Dessert

SHADE - YARD GAMES - ROPING

DONKEY - HORSES - MUSIC

HORSE SHOES - FOOD - WAGON RIDES

YA'LL COME NOW !!!!!



