

Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Pres. Jim Roe asked Sidney Sandridge to open our luncheon meeting with a prayer and lead us in the pledge of allegiance. Then Jim announced that we have a new JOOI Club – our 4th. It's located at Whitesburg Middle School. Gay and Connie have agreed to assist Fabiani in arranging for an organizational meeting and to install officers.

Alberto reported that the pancake breakfast will offer members an opportunity to get those present interested in our club – possibly becoming members. Just ask them to attend one of our regular meetings. Furthermore, Alberto thanked several organizations for furnishing supplies for the breakfast, including free advertising of the event on WLRH, public radio. He added that we should think of updating our club brochure. This was always done by George Ferrell. John Shirey noted that he had recently talked with George and Chris at Kroger's, so that was good to hear.

VP Jim Pepper introduced his guest, Gene Miller. Then he introduced our program of singing and guitar playing by Ron Little. All the music was composed by Ron. His daughter Donna was also a guest at the meeting. Ron gave background information leading into each of his songs. The words were all inspirational, comforting and peaceful. The 1st was based on his missionary experience in Jamaica, and it describes the feelings and gratitude of 3rd world children to the USA.

Ron continued with a song in memory of his grandfather when Ron was growing up in Indiana – about his tattered overalls. Ron moved to Alabama in 1980 and described in song his building of a house from scratch, and turning that house into a home. Then he



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played and sang a song from a 3-act play written by Donna on the "Trail of Tears," familiar to those living in the southeast US. When his first grandchild was born he dedicated a song for the occasion. This became a tradition, leading to 7 more songs. The songs included serious thinking and wisdom from the parents to the new born.

He finished his performance by singing of his love for this country inspired as they traveled West over the Rockies to the Pacific coast. His music was definitely a departure from most music produced today, and the calming and relaxing lyrics were easy to understand and appreciate.

Jim reminded us to remember Logan in our prayers and he had a bucket to collect donations earmarked for a Christmas gift to him. Byrom won the money today. Remember next week we'll meet in our regular room at the Downtown Holiday Inn, but at 6:30 pm for installation of 2011/2012 officers. Past Lt. Gov. Tom Howell will officiate. When October programs are finalized by Jim Berry we'll have them in our calendar. I understand he has some good ones, including our own George McDonough.



Optimistic Quote of The Week

Adversity cause some men to break; others to break records.

William A. Ward

CALENDAR

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|------|------------------------|---|
| 9/24 | Saturday 7:30 to 11:30 | Cooper House
Central Presbyterian |
| | | Pancake Breakfast for Hawthorne Conservatory |
| 9-29 | Thursday 6:30 pm | Downtown Holiday Inn |
| | | Installation of Officers |