



Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Pres. Jim Pepper presided over today's luncheon meeting. Chaplain Sandridge gave our invocation and led us in the pledge of allegiance. We had an overflow turnout which was especially surprising on a drizzly day. It was good to have Marlene in our midst. Also, Nancy Washington Vaughn was in attendance. We had so many eaters that the hotel had to have some late comers order from the menu. The small steak most of us had was quite tasty – better than that available in some well-known restaurants according to one member.

Fabiani passed out an attractive new card that he is using to spread Optimism, mainly via JOOI Clubs. The card includes a few pictures of Junior Optimist Club activities, and gives salient points of Optimist International. Our 5 JOOI Clubs are shown, and the tools and resources to launch new clubs is listed. Madison Academy may soon have 2 new clubs. Fabiani and Pres. Jim recently met with 15 principals of private schools and reports great interest. The new card, summarizing the steps necessary to organize a new club, are clear and detailed. Now, Fabiani needs volunteers (club members) to be point-of-contact persons for each school to ensure success. He's talking with Catholic High School as his next target.

Jesse Lang could use help this Saturday morning, November 5, for Tri-Star basketball at the ORC. Alberto said the ROC (Randolph JOOI Club) installation will be Tuesday, November 8, 10:00 am, at Randolph High School on Garth Road. All are welcome. Pres. Jim asked that members bring canned vegetables next week to support the Hazel Green JOOI Club. They are collecting for Christmas Charities. Jim added that the bucket for Logan will be located on the podium following each meeting.

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Lou Gehrig's disease or ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) was the subject of today's speaker. I remember the Iron Horse who played in 2130 consecutive baseball games for the Bronx Bombers, and how he became ineffective at the start of the 1939 season, and dying a couple years later. His words "I'm the luckiest man on the face of the Earth" before a capacity crowd at Yankee Stadium will long be remembered.

Our speaker, Nancy G. Colin, Executive Director of ALS Association reminded us that there is no cure for this crippling disease, however research continues. From diagnosis to death is usually 2 to 5 years, but Stephen Hawking, arguably the world's foremost scientific thinker, is still with us after more than 30 years.

It is estimated that 400 people in Alabama currently suffer from ALS, and 90 new cases are diagnosed each year. Crestwood's ALS Care Clinic provides multidisciplinary care for the management of ALS staffed by compassionate, knowledgeable and dedicated individuals.

Zack won the money. Gay is working on our Christmas Party. Bill Clarke will discuss voting for a Huntsville Optimist Foundation Board seat at the Business Meeting.

W

Optimistic Quote of the Week

" I have noticed even people who claim everything is predestined, and that we can do nothing to change it, look before they cross the road."

Stephen Hawking

CALENDAR

- 11/8 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank
Board Meeting
- 11/10 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
Sheila McFerran – Still Serving Veterans
- 11/17 Thursday 11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Jim & Gay Pepper)
- 11/24 Thursday **NO MEETING**
Thanksgiving

