



OPTI-TOPICS

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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It was good to have Jerry Shoemaker with us today. He's a past president from about 40 years ago. Jerry brought with him 2 guests; Ben Jennings, a police officer whom we honored a few years back at our Respect for Law Banquet; and Barry Pendergraft, a manager from Northrup/Grumman and a candidate for an open seat on the city council. Al Renz gave each a membership application. Ralph's guest was his wife Liz, and Jim Pearson, father of the leader of today's musical program, was the guest of George Ferrell. Pres. Bob asked Sidney to lead us in prayer and the pledge of allegiance. Then Bob led us in singing "Happy Birthday" to George - I think his 88th. Furthermore, Bob urged us to sign up on two sheets being circulated; one regarding attendance at the YAW Banquet to be catered by Clementine's (see calendar), and featuring an outstanding keynote speaker arranged by Duane Plank; and the other sheet to collect birthday and anniversary information. Bob read a letter from Huntsville Optimist Foundation's Paul Fowler assuring the club that our financial requests would be forthcoming.



George introduced The Young & Restless; consisting of Jimmy Pearson, lead singer and chief picker (banjo, I think), along with singer and guitar player, Charlie Scott, with Jim Derrington on bass. Jimmy sadly reported that their very talented and colorful fiddle player had passed on and that R. D. Walker, the original leader of this group was unable to be here today. This is always one of our most popular programs of the year. We enjoyed joining in the singing of "Because" and other familiar tunes. Zack especially liked "Rocky Top" and "The Tennessee Waltz." Hank Williams' "I Saw the Light" and John Newton's "Amazing Grace" added to a varied repertoire.

Joe Pullen's name was drawn for the prize money, but he being a no-show the pot builds. Al Renz reminded us that we vote on new club officers next week. I think the Program Chairman for the month (George) is expected to arrange for food at the business meeting. I need information on May meetings.

CALENDAR

04/15	Thurs.11:45	ORC	Business Meeting
04/22	Thurs. 6:00pm	Mayfair Church	YAW
04/29	Thurs.11:45	DHI	Global Warming

