

"Optimist OPTICS"



*"Everything We Do
is for the Kids"*

This Week's Program

*February 17th, 2010
Girl's Oratorical Contest*

Next Week's Program

*February 24th, 2010
Foundation Grant Presentations*

**Ron Eberhart
President**



**Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble**

Financial Support for:



It was a cold, blistery day outside, but it was warm inside as the Downtown Optimist meeting commenced at the Blue and Gold room in the spacious Old National Bank Building.

President Ron got things rolling at about 12:10pm. The reverend, Don Julian, lead us in a thoughtful prayer, Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, and our Optimist Creed.

Returnees included: Karen Morris, Scott Joest, and Mean Gene the "X" fining Machine". It was great to see these folks back at the meeting. Also, Larry Lewis for three consecutive Wednesday's. Larry said he can be more "regular" as his schedule is a little more flexible.

Don Julian's Sunshine Report was good – no one ill. President Ron did mention that Phil Reisinger, President of the Westside club, had a mild stroke and is in the hospital. Ron requested that members remember Phil in their prayers.

Announcements:

- Board Meeting, Tuesday, February 16th at Ri Ra Irish Pub, Second Floor, 12 Noon
- Now Meeting: It's in the "works" for sometime in March. Karen Morris and Tim Deisher are planning this event. Be thinking about who you would like to invite.
- Just an FYI – our club does not meet when the EVSC schools are closed due to inclement weather.
- EVSC Fund raiser – an event we are planning with the Eastside and Westside Club to happen in early May. More details later.

Roger the Dodger, Sarg at Arms, was UP next with his book of Trivia questions. The group had one right and one wrong. Conscience money was paid by Karen Morris for missing 3 meetings (not for wearing ostentatious boots), Ron Eberhart for plugging the Superbowl viewership. Dan Phillips and others pitched in a few bucks for the club.

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Optimist Club of Evansville - Downtown, Inc.

Meetings: 11:45 am Wednesday,

"New" Old National Bank Building, Downtown, Blue and Gold Room

Mail Club at: P.O. Box 15905, Evansville, Indiana 47716 - 0905

www.evansvilledowntownoptimist.org

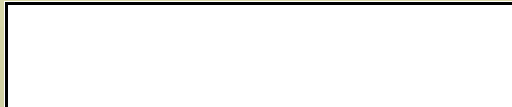
Evansville Downtown Charitable Foundation, Inc.

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This Week's Program



Next Week's Program



**Ron Eberhart
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.....Continued



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Buddy prizes went to Bob Levi and Dan Phillips. Half-pot was won by Karen Morris who graciously donated the \$5 back to our club. Thanks, Karen!!

Program Chairman for February, Chris Gehlhausen, introduced Kimberly Moman, President of the Board of Directors for Aurora. Their motto is “Giving Light to the Homeless”. She discussed how homelessness effects adults but more importantly, if effects children particularly young toddlers during their first two years of life. Kimberly also acknowledged that Vanderburgh County has the highest per capita of homelessness of any county in Indiana.

Aurora Inc. traces its beginnings back to a community gathering of persons interested in addressing the issue of homelessness sponsored by Church Women United in March 1988. The impact of homelessness to women and children was of particular interest to the group. The Evansville Coalition for the Homeless was developed from that initial meeting of 43 persons representing over 29 different organizations. The Coalition changed its name in December 2005 to Aurora.

The organization has historically focused its endeavors on community awareness of homelessness, fund development through Street Relief, data collection through tri-annual surveys, developing affordable housing, creating low-cost health care services, program development and coordination of services to reduce and alleviate the impact of homelessness.

Today, Aurora’s mission is to end homelessness in the Evansville community. The agency carries out its mission by providing direct services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness, promoting homeless prevention, providing community awareness, facilitating collaborative initiatives, and advocating for the social and economic changes to make ending homelessness a reality.

We had a little extra time this week and President Ron mentioned the Philharmonic Performance last weekend of “Simply Sinatra” that it was “simply great”. Bob Levi and Ken Dennis also attended with their wives.

President Ron ended the meeting with a reminder to members that we need to look ahead to next year in recruiting officers for the October 1st Optimist Year.

Don’t forget to invite a guest for next week. Come and support one our club’s primary activities, the Girl’s Oratorical Contest.

Steve Stealth – February Bulletin Editor.

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