

"Optimist OPTICS"- continued

Announcements: There were numerous announcements.

Camp Carson Visitation: July 20th, Wednesday, we will meet at the camp in Princeton at 11:30am for those who want to take a tour. Meet/park at the lake dam as you enter the camp for a tour of the new building. Those who come later, around 12Noon....park up by the dining hall or lodge. We normally eat at 12:30pm. We will make a check presentation to Mark Scoular at the meeting.

Camp Carson Donation: Note too late to contribute. Bring your check next week or send in to:

Evansville Downtown Optimist Club Foundation
P. O. Box 3882
Evansville, IN 47737

The foundation will match up to \$1500. Shaun Kingston, Foundation Treasurer, announced that we had collected \$725.00 to date. We can still match another \$775.00. So, open those pocketbooks.

District Convention: August 5 and 6th. Ron asked members to bring baked goods, i.e. desserts, etc. for the hospitality room.

Board Meeting: Blue and Gold Room, Tuesday, July 19th at 12Noon.

Michael Burk stepped forward as Sarg. of Arms. He asked several trivia questions relating to sports. He really fleeced the group today as no one was able to answer the questions. Jeff Olson won the "half-pot" and donated the money back to the club. Thanks Jeff!!

Our speaker today was courtesy of Dan Phillips. Amos Morris, Executive Director of Mesker Park Zoo, was present and gave an update about the zoo. What was new and some future projects.

Amos, who comes well-qualified to Mesker Zoo, has been director for 7 years. He previously has management experience at zoos in Providence, Rhode Island and Pittsburgh.

New at the Zoo: Chestnut-breasted Malkoha and Amazon Milk frogs.

Babies: Female Lanqur born on Mother's Day and Takin, Kailash born in February.

Future projects include: Carousel and Budgie Aviary. He discussed the carousel from years ago that was across from the zoo. Everyone over the years talked about how they really loved it and would like to see it return. The zoo wants to purchase a new one and have set a 3 million dollar budget. Also, alongside would be a walk-through interactive budgie aviary. This would be designed to be up close and personal with parakeets. These projects are targeted to be completed by Spring 2017.

Amos also told us about plan for a new restaurant, adding Penguins in 3 years, and bringing back the Lion and Hippo displays in 5 years.

Be sure and come on the 27th as we will induct 2 new members....That's it for today.....

Ron Eberhart, July Newsletter Writer



Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:

YMCA
Camp Carson

Santa
Clothes Club

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 11:45
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.