



"Optimist OPTICS"

"Helping Kids, Now and for the Future"



Optimist Club of Evansville - Downtown

This Week's Program

Next Week's Program

Aug 10th —
Gina Gibson & Josey Roth—Evansville Christian Life

Aug 24th —
TBD



Ron Eberhart, Circle of Leader for July, greeted the membership and guests. Ron then presented the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag, and the Optimist Creed.

We had several guests including three new people who have joined the club. Dan Phillips had two guests who also joined the club: Jason Rucker and Joshua Paulson, and Krista Donahue sponsored by Cheryl Graves.



Announcements: There were numerous announcements.

NOW Meeting Update: We have added 5 new members thanks to Cheryl Graves who added 1, and Dan Phillips who has added 4.

Camp Carson Visitation: Ron updated the group regarding our annual visitation at Camp Carson. Ken Dennis, Dr. John Bender, and Ron Eberhart attended and presented Camp Carson with a check for \$1700.

Camp Carson Donation: Shaun Kingston, Foundation Treasurer, announced that our new total is \$2350.00 with the half matching funds from the foundation. There is still time to give. Mail your donation to:

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



Indiana South District Convention: August 5 and 6th. Ron asked members to bring baked goods, i.e. desserts, etc. for the hospitality room. Call him at 812-568-7269 if you need to contact him to set-up a time to deliver the "goodies" to the Tropicana Hotel.



Board of Directors: Ron announced that the Board of Directors has approved Richard Hawley, and Dan Phillips as new board members.

October Picnic: Our first meeting in October on the 12th will be a picnic at Wesselman's Park. Dan Phillips is making the reservations. We will purchase BBQ and have members bring side dishes. We will take up a voluntary collection to help pay for the BBQ. More details later.



Changing of the Guard: Ken Dennis announced the date of September 28th will be our new officers induction. Kennel Club has been selected at the location. More meal details to follow.



Golf Scramble: Dan Phillips, Chairman, reminded members of the annual golf scramble at Eagle Valley on September 14th. This will take the place of our first meeting in September.

Ed Harrison Memorial Golf Scramble

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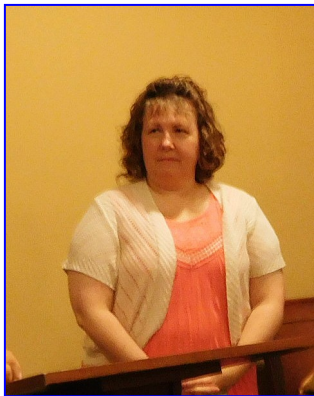
Financial Support for:



Meetings: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 11:45am
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.

“Optimist OPTICS”- continued

JOOI Club: Ron announced that Emily Baxter will contact Joshua Academy once school begins to see if they would like to restart the JOOI club.



It was a very special day as we inducted **Krista Donahue**. Krista works at Old National Bank and was sponsored by Cheryl Graves. President-Elect John Perkins inducted Kristi. We welcome Krista and know she will be an asset to our club

Our Sarg today was Shaun Kingston. He used trivia questions courtesy of Mike Burk. The questions were of political nature. No one got any correct. Also, Conscience money was collected from Ron Eberhart, Jeff Olson paid to announce Sally’s birthday tomorrow. Others giving were Dan Phillips, Cheryl Graves, and Tim Deisher.

Ken Dennis won the “half-pot” and donated the money back to the club. Thanks Ken!

Our speaker today was courtesy of Dan Phillips. Mo Cato, Development Manager of Junior Achievement. Mo graduated from USI and played on their soccer team. After graduation, he helped coach youth soccer and realized he liked working with you. He volunteered at Junior Achievement for over 20 years teaching various courses in high school. He had the chance to join the organization and did so as Development Manager in 2015 which is primarily a fund raising position. Junior Achievement was started in 1919 and have become the largest organization to help youth gain knowledge and skills for economic success. They let kids know that they can own their own business and teach the free enterprise system to them. They have 3 core goals: (1) Work Read. (2) Entrepreneurship. (3) Financial Responsibility. Mo mentioned that schools do not teach any sort of career preparation. He stated it is important to start the process in middle-school to give kids the incentive to stay in high school. Vanderburgh County has 22% drop out rate which is very high.



From the time Junior Achievement was started in 1919 through 1975 that only had one course: Company Program, taught high school age students to create a product, write a business plan, and try to get it produced. After 1975, they created more programs for middle-school age children. Today they have 22 programs for kids in K – 12.

Our local J.A. office helps 28,000 students in 11 counties in 1200 classrooms. Our office here in Evansville is number 3 in the United States in penetration percentage of students which totals 36%. He indicated their office would probably expand up north toward Terra Haute.

Nationally, 4.6 million kids are helped with Junior Achievement courses.

They have a local volunteer shortage and have 10,000 students on a waiting list to get their courses.

That’s it for today.....

Ron Eberhart, July Newsletter Writer



Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble

Financial Support for:

YMCA
Camp Carson

Santa
Clothes Club

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