



John Perkins - President

"Optimist OPTICS"

***"Helping Kids, Now and
for the Future"***



Optimist Club of Evansville - Downtown

This Week's Program

Aug 23rd - TBA

Next Week's Program

Sept 13th - TBA



**Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble**

Financial Support

**YMCA
Camp Carson**



Ron rang the bell several times in leu of our missing President, John. Yes, he did have an excuse. Jeff Olsen gave an insightful invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ken Dennis led the group with the Creed. Can't say we had a large body of members today, but a number of members present had large bodies, with this writer included.

Dan Phillips was the only returnee today, and he was welcomed by all.

There was no Sunshine Report because no one was aware of any ill members. Hooray!!!

Sargent Mike was also absent. Not sure why, but he does have three children all starting school today. Maybe he and his wife were celebrating. Ron was the stand-in sarge today. He only had one question, which was random from the secret book, and it was, "what year was an IU football game first televised?" Answer: 1951 with Ohio State winning the game. All present happily paid. They were happy because there was only one question.

Doc Bender had a Medical Memory, not a medical minute. In three months, Doc will be 95, and he didn't want to forget what his memory was of the war years. Yes, Doc was in WWII and especially the Korean War. There were eighty men in his class when he went to medical school. He was classified as having a MOS as a fully trained urologist. They had 50,000 prisoners in South Korea where he was stationed, and he and other doctors had to take care of their medical needs. The prisoners were put in compounds of 5,000 men in each with a total of ten compounds. The compounds had machine gun nests setting on towers at each corner with guards patrolling outside the fence. The doctors were not armed, so they were at risk when they entered the compound.

Five thousand prisoners, of the 50,000, had tuberculous (TB), and 10% of the 5,000 had complications of TB in their urinary tract or bones. A new drug was developed called streptomycin which saved their lives. Had these men not been captured by the Americans, they would have died of TB.

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**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



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After the war, most of the prisoners returned to North Korea to be with their families.

After Doc's medical memory, Ron Eberhart presented Doc Bender with a very attractive plaque honoring his years of keeping the membership informed with his Medical Minutes. Ron announced that Gary Burk is officially a member of the Downtown Club, with some difficulty getting the transfer made from the North Side Club.

Dan Phillips reminded everyone of the Golf Tournament to be held Wednesday, September 20, 2017 and to get teams signed-up.

There being no further business, Ron rang the closing bell just before 1:00 p.m.

Editor, Gary A. Burk



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