

"Optimist OPTICS"



*"Everything We Do
is for the Kids"*

This Week's Program

December 2nd, 2009
Mizell Stewart III
Editor, Evansville Courier Press "Trust & Love"

Next Week's Program

December 9th, 2009
Dr. Ray Arensmen, U of E
Economic Forecast

Ron Eberhart
Interim President



**Ed Harrison
Memorial
Golf Scramble**

Financial Support for:

**YMCA
Camp Carson**



President Ron rang the bell at 12:10 a.m. to a large crowd, including many guests. A total of 30 people were in attendance. It was obvious this was going to be an upbeat meeting. The Invocation, Pledge and Optimist Creed were led by Gary Burk. *Sunshine Report*—Don Julian said that no one reported in sick. Great!

- Mean Gene Melchiors said he needs 5 more volunteers for Bell Ringers for the Salvation Army. Remember to write your check and give it to Gene.
- Ron said he is waiting on USI to tell him if we can start a new club at the University.
- Ron has received the Internet Safety Kits from OI. More to follow.
- The JOOI Club at Joshua Academy will begin on January 20, 2010. This is a fun time, and all are welcome to attend their meetings.
- Thanks to Ann Pendley for rounding up 9 bicycle helmets, small to medium, for Joshua Academy. They will be delivered in time for Christmas. She said the helmets were donated by Rob Apple at The Bank of Evansville. Many thanks Rob.
- Karen Morris is still receiving kudos for the fabulous year she had as President. The first award was a certificate for the best newsletter design in the District. (Thanks Ron for putting the design together). She received an Honorable Mention for a service project, and finally, she received the Excellence Award for Fund Raising, the Golf Scramble. The program will be presented to Optimist International for further review. Way to go girl. Now get that turkey in the oven.
- Emily Baxter awarded the top two seniors from the three schools we represented at the Youth Appreciation Week events. The top two students are selected by their high schools. The winners are: Keagan Dunville and Shruti Zina from Central High; Audrey Binyon and Collin Taylor from Evansville Day School; Morgan Becker and Colin Byram from North High School. These young people have a real future before them. The students introduce their parents/counselor, and they gave a snapshot of their experience job shadowing.

Sarge took money from all the members. Gene Melchiors donated his half-pot winnings back to the club. This was his first time to win the half pot.

Today's speaker John Simmons, had a unique story to tell, which cannot be repeated in the newsletter. It was very personal and relating to his experience winning the Oratorical Contest at the Princeton Optimist Club some years ago.

John is on the board of the Arthritis Foundation. There are approximately 100 forms of arthritis. Arthritis cost 86.2 **B**illion dollars last year, and this is just for the diagnosed people. In Indiana, there are 600,000 cases of Juvenile Arthritis. He had a number of pamphlets and magazines available. On December 5, at 8:45 a.m. they will sponsor a 5K run/walk, starting at the Old Court house. He did encourage everyone to donate, and he stated that only 30% of your donation goes to overhead. They have one person in the office and all others are volunteers. John thanked the Optimist Club for all they do. He has given the club his application and was approved at the last board meeting.

Ron finished the meeting by asking everyone to give thanks to God for all we have, and have a great Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

Bulletin Editor, Gary Burk

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.