

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

**Celebrating over 60 years of service to Youth & North Topeka!**

The Tuesday morning meeting of the Sunrise Optimist Club was at the Optimist Event Center. President Kyle McNorton called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM with 19 club members attending. Don Pekrul gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** David Damme, February 17; Douglas George, February 19. No one was there and the choir was silent.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Thanks to the Tuesday Troopers (members) who helped cut down and remove 5 dead pine trees on the edge of the Complex, north of t-ball diamonds.

Sunrise Optimist Club Board of Directors meeting: 5:45 pm, February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Sunrise Optimist Event Center.

Winter basketball league is over. Registration for all sports: Spring & Summer golf, volleyball, and baseball/softball/T-ball is now open and available at [www.sunriseoptimist.org](http://www.sunriseoptimist.org). Easter egg hunt is scheduled for April 8 at the Sports Complex. Donations of wrapped candy are requested. There is now only one Sunrise Optimist Facebook page.

Secretary/Treasurer: We need a member to take over Charlie's position as club treasurer & club secretary.

**Program:** Rep. Dan Hawkins, Speaker of the Kansas House

Rep. Hawkins has served in the House for 10 years: 4 years as Republican Majority Leader. Both he and the President of the Senate visited with Republican members to identify their issues. Those issues were grouped into 8 buckets and include over 200 bill proposals. He also led the Republican caucus to have a biennial plan and regular progress reports to the caucus.

Some of the priority issues for the Republican caucus are:

1. Education: fairness in women's sports & funding 100% of special ed costs for each school district
2. Protecting the safety net, i.e. first responders as an example
3. Workforce development due to shortage of employees
4. Water conservation, possibly use portion of state sales tax to fund the water plan
5. Use \$600 million of the \$2.5 billion revenue surplus; exempt WISC allowed purchases; flat tax for lower income residents; no state tax on Social Security because retirees are moving to Texas & Florida with lower taxes.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**February 21:** Students of the Month

**February 28:** Chelsea Cox, KVC 6:30 pm at Viking Grille

### **President Quote:**

"The more you complain, the more you find to complain about. The more you give thanks, the more you find things to be thankful for."

- Bob Hoffman



**NORTH TOPEKA**

Meetings: Every  
Tuesday 6:45 AM  
720 NW 50<sup>th</sup> St, Topeka