

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

Celebrating over 50 years of service to Youth & North Topeka!

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: No birthdays this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Christmas tree lot was setup on Saturday and trees have been sold already. Volunteer to sell trees at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4fabae2aa3f5c16-optimist> or call Dennis Reedy, 785-640-0834. Camper trailer – turn off thermostat & propane each night.

Club members are reminded to pay annual membership dues. No club evening meetings on 4th Mondays in November and December.

Fall basketball league have games at the Logan Elementary gym this year. Winter registration for basketball league distributed by Seaman schools via Peachtree software.

Rene Poort died. He was a long-time youth sports referee at the YMCA and Optimist leagues.

Check out the web site for our Event Center at <https://sunriseoptimisteventcenter.com>

Program: Gary Scarlett, club member

Gary grew up in Valley Falls area, one of 7 girls &

6 boys. His dad was a truck driver and started farming around 1946. His Dad favored Minneapolis tractors and did hay work in the area. He had an 8th grade education and was a great mechanic.

Gary reported that he is accident prone and is known as “lucky” to survive accidents. At three years old riding the tire fender on the tractor, he fell off and the disc sliced the back of his head. Yes, he survived that one and several upholstery accidents. His brother-in-law got him started in upholstery. He didn’t enjoy furniture upholstery because it was difficult satisfying women customers. After working several auto upholstery shops, he started his own business, Scarlett Auto Interiors, in 1976 and eventually opened his shop on U.S. Highway 24. He was featured in Hot Rod magazine and worked on the interior of an Evel Knievel truck at the Knievel museum, located at the Topeka Harley Davidson sales and repair shop. His three children have careers in electrical engineering, business/real estate/ insurance adjuster and law. His daughter worked for Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas, and is now a law professor & assistant dean.

Upcoming Events:

November 30, Stephen Buntain, Clinic Director of SERC Physical Therapy

President’s Quote:

“Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

- Thomas Edison

