

OPTIMIST CLUB

of Arlington

OPTI  VIEWS

OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL

Friend of Youth



VOLUME XXXII

NUMBER 5

FEBRUARY 2010

President's Message



I can not believe that it is already February. Hopefully everyone made it through the coldest days in years and managed to take down the Christmas lights without getting frost bite. The second semester of school is well underway and I'm sure every kid out there is already looking forward to Spring Break!

Congratulations to the students who participated in the annual Oratorical Contests that were held at the Arlington Central Library on January 16 and 23. We were pleased to have so many contestants this year that we split the contest between boys and girls. Everyone did a great job with a difficult topic. Thanks to Mike Cheves and Kevin Ailara and all those members who helped make this year's event special. Best wishes to the students who moved on to the Regional Oratorical Contest.

Baseball sign ups have been underway at the Hut for several weeks now. We would love to have a full schedule, so let your schools and friends know that Optimist Club Baseball is a great program. Arlington City Councilmember, Mel LeBlanc will throw out the first pitch on Opening Day, Saturday, March 6. This year, the season starts a couple of weeks earlier to give us room for rain outs and to allow our teams to be ready for the P.O.N.Y. Tournaments this summer. Our teams have been making progress in the tournaments and we want them to have the best possible situation to ensure success. Coach's workdays are underway. Thanks to everyone who has helped so far. Gerald Casey has the baseball equipment room looking good and Joe

Harden as always is hard at work on field maintenance. However, we need as many people as possible to come out to Senter Park to get the fields in tip top shape, especially with our early start date. Contact baseball chairman Lonnie Harris for questions.

Remember, you are the Optimist Club of Arlington. I became involved several years ago when my sons were playing baseball. I started as a coach, but did not involve myself further. I came to realize, that the club did not run on its own and could use my help. Believe me, the club needs your help, too. Please consider getting more involved. We have many activities coming up in the near future. Baseball is of course the biggest one, but we also have our Essay Contest, Junior Olympics, 4th of July Parade Float construction and more that need your help. As always, we need concession stand volunteers especially since Ramonda Casey is stepping down from the lead position. We need someone to take over the lead in running the concession stand. Please consider this worthwhile vocation. One member who has decided to become more involved is Larry Swinea. He has agreed to become the new sponsorship chairman. Let's give Larry something to do by directing potential baseball sponsors to him. The fields always look great with our sponsorship banners, and as always, the money goes into our great program. Thanks Larry for stepping up to the plate on this.

Tom Chick and Joe Jablon were recognized at the Arlington Alliance for Youth Collaboration breakfast which was held on January 22 for their many years of service for the OCA through the Alliance's "Champions for Youth" program. Congratulations to Tom and Joe for this well deserved recognition. Thanks to all the members who devote countless hours to the kids of Arlington. Come out to a dinner meeting this spring at J. Gilligan's. They are always enjoyable and it gives members a chance for fellowship. Let's keep moving forward to keep Arlington a great place for families. Remember that you do make a difference!

Peace!

Raul Gonzalez

President OCA • gonzalezr@passmanjones.com

Meetings on Second and Fourth Wednesdays - 6:30 PM
LOCATION: J. GILLIGAN'S BAR & GRILL
400 EAST ABRAM STREET
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

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www.optimistclubofarlington.org
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minutes of the **board of directors'** meeting

JAN 4, 2009

President Raul Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Mac Ledbetter led the Board in Prayer.

On a motion from Joey Frazor and with a second from John Palmarchuk it was passed that last month's minutes were accepted as written in the Bulletin. Raul stated that due to her current work requirements Ramonda Casey had resigned as Secretary. Raul said he had appointed Charlie McNutt as the new Secretary. Mac Ledbetter second the motion and after the vote Charlie was approved to fill the position.

Cecil Sanford submitted a letter to Raul asking that his term as President be moved from October 2010 through September 2011 be moved to the right for 1 year, 2011 through 2012. This request was due to Cecil being on a second shift job assignment. After much discussion it was passed that Cecil would be President-Elect one additional year. The upcoming Election committee will be directed to nominate candidates for President next year instead of the normal President-elect.

Kevin Ailara presented the financial status of the Youth Account. The bank account is in a positive condition. Only outstanding bill was the City Football fees for Harold Patterson. John Palmarchuk will review the field charges and report back to Kevin any changes that may be found.

Danny Koegler presented the Membership Account. Currently, all bills are paid and there is still funds available. Danny moved to add one new member to the Club. Gurvin Lee made the second and the name was added if the person meets the required fees and orientation meeting. Danny will provide a list of members that are in jeopardy of being dropped from membership for non-payment of dues. The list will be passed to the sport committees chairmen for review of any current coaches.

Gurvin Lee gave the report for the Youth Activities Committee. No meeting has been held in January, but discussions with the Ft. Worth Club has failed to reach an agreement on the Summer Classic. This is the Post Season Baseball Tournament that has been held with the two Clubs for the past 25 years. It was indicated the Arlington Club will still play if the Ft. Worth Club is able to arrange their schedule for the dates presented. Ramonda Casey had related to Raul that the Community Service Committee had identified a family for Christmas. Kathy Palmarchuk delivered the gift to the family.

President Raul followed up on the Heritage Day activities with the City. The City will spray the same vines and trees that are being cut back each year. This should allow the Club to do more work in other areas next December. Ramonda Casey resigned as the lead in the concession stand, also. Kevin Ailara stated that the profits from the concessions had been set aside for startup cost for the upcoming Baseball season. The rest was transferred to the Youth Account.

Tom Chick presented the Club budget for 2010. It was for the Youth and Membership Accounts. After much discussion the Budget was passed on a motion from John Palmarchuk with a second from Lonnie Harris. This coming Saturday, Jan. 11, will be a work day on the baseball fields. If you would like to work on the fields meet with Joe Harden at 9 AM at the Hut any Saturday until the season starts.

Joe Jablon is to meet with the City Fire Inspectors for their inspection of the Hut, concession stand, baseball and football rooms.

The Grand Prairie Optimist Club wishes to build a new club this year. They have asked our Club to participate in the process. Irving has been selected as the target city. If you know of someone in Irving that would like to be a member of an Optimist Club let Kevin Ailara or Raul Gonzalez know. If we

are successful, this will help Raul become a Distinguished President.

Mike Cheves stated that the Oratorical and Essay contest are approaching. If everyone participates that has indicated a desire to do so there will be approximately 32 kids involved. January 16 and January 23 are the scheduled dates at the Central Library downtown. The ACA, Burleson, and Grand Prairie Clubs will assist in these competitions. Contact Mike if you would like to help.

John Palmarchuk is working to get programs lined up for the upcoming dinner meetings.

Charlie McNutt said that all of the vendors have received a bid letter and list for the baseball equipment. The bids are due at the end of the week, January 9. A Purchasing Committee meeting will be held during the next week to select the suppliers.

Joe Jablon held the Scout Christmas Party the week before Christmas. He reported that all of the scouts had a fun time and appreciated the Optimist Club for the party.

Next Youth Sports Committee is January 14, 2010 at the Parks Department Downtown.

The AYEYF and the Club are to meet to discuss how they could work together for the benefit of the Club's sponsorship program.

Mike Cheves is working on the 4th of July Parade. He said that the date is fast approaching. Since the Club has a history of winning let Mike know you are willing to help to keep this tradition going.

Also, Mike Cheves is the man to select and purchase some chairs for the front table. It seems like this has passed from person to person for the last 6 months, but who's counting.

Mike Gibson is to contact a company to recommend what it will take to get the heating system repaired in the baseball and football equipment rooms.

Old Business:

Danny Koegler is to re-visit the bids for the security lights on the 2 baseball fields at Senter Park. It was thought that 3 would be sufficient. Danny will report back to the Board in a month. The old tree between the 2 baseball fields is in poor condition. There is concern that it could break limbs off and damage the new fences and will interfere with the installation of any scoreboards that will be placed between the fields. Randy Rude will take a look at the situation and contact a company that will quote a price to remove the tree and plant another.

New Business:

Kevin Ailara pointed out that the Club dues to International increased by \$10. This will naturally have an effect on the Club's finances. There is still some cash left in the Center Park Improvement Fund. This will be used on the repair of baseball fields or returned to the appropriate account. We plan to host the 2nd Quarter North Texas District Meeting. Kevin Ailara moved we supply 150 of the coffee cups we give to guest speakers at the Dinner Meetings. John Palmarchuk 2nd the motion. The motion passed limiting the expense to \$400. No decision was reached on a discussion initiated by Charlie McNutt concerning payments requested by athletic suppliers. More to come later.

Meeting adjourned.

FOOTBALL



Any type of football camp is illegal unless approved by the FPC and a newspaper ad is published that says the camp is open city wide.

Well another season has come and gone. Championship Day was a lot of fun for everyone. The weather was a little cool, but hey, this is football. At least there was no rain or snow. A big congratulations to all the winning teams, it was a long hard fought season. Your victories were well deserved. For the most part, all the games were very close, and the kids had a good time.

At this time I would like to send out a VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE CLUBMEMBERSANDNONMEMBERS who came out and helped this day. It takes a lot of people to put on a day like this and have it come out good. There

were a bunch of good people out there this day doing just this. Sometimes I think in today's rat race, we forget why we are here, and then we have a day like championship day, and it all comes back why we are here. FOR THE KIDS IN OUR PROGRAMS!!!!!! What a deal we have, doing fun things, and making such big differences in so many young kids lives. I feel honored to have been a part of it. I hope all club members feel this way.

I would also like to thank a couple of special club members at this time.

First, a big thank you to Randy Ford for

donating all the food for the membership to eat on championship day. It kept their energy up . Thank you Randy.

Second, a special thanks to Dr. Clay Ellis for donating the pizzas and drinks for all the stock share pizza parties. When I delivered the pizzas to the practice fields, you should have seen the faces of all the kids. I bet their first thought was, hey practice is over early, and food too. Thanks Clay.

John Palmarchuk
johnpalmarchuk@yahoo.com

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THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF ARLINGTON
ON FACEBOOK!**

deadlines & dates

| Date | Program | 2010 |
|-------------------|---|------|
| January 27, 2010 | U.S. Postal Inspector will be our guest speaker at the Dinner Meeting | |
| January 30, 2010 | Mandatory coaches meeting | |
| February 2, 2010 | Equipment issue for shetland and pinto | |
| February 4, 2010 | Equipment issue for mustang and bronco | |
| February 10, 2010 | Our guest speaker for the meeting will be Lindsay Wells, Teen Court Coordinator Arlington Municipal Court | |
| February 16, 2010 | Registration turn in for Shetland and Pinto | |
| February 18, 2010 | Registration turn in for Mustang and Bronco | |
| March 6, 2010 | Opening Day for baseball | |

HERITAGE DAY



OFFICER CRAIG STORY

Died in the Line of Duty, January 13, 2010

18507 UCHOKNCPKUUWTKXE
DJKUKKPKNPFGTNUQ
28UMR507HOKNPFJKURNEO
KKPQWTWUJVC PFRTCTU6JGRKOKUV
WDRKPIKUNPIODQCMG
CFCKP2NUPVECODFCUHE
ODEPHOCKQ

Donations can be made to:
APA Benevolent Fund c/o Arlington Police
Association
PO Box 27 Arlington, TX 76004.

1975 - 2010

baseball

Time is going by fast. Sign ups are going on and work days at the field have started. Coaches come out and help. That gets you a scrimmage game before the season starts. It doesn't have to be head coaches, it can be anyone from your team. Work days are going on every Saturday till Feb 20. I want to thank the baseball committee for your help. Make note of the dates coming up that are important: Coaches meeting - Saturday, January 30th at 3:00 at Central library. The Opening day parade is March 6th. Every team needs to walk in the parade. Coaches continue turning in your player registration cards. Returning player registration cards are due by January 29th. Help us out and let us know how many players you have so we don't

place a player on your team and cause confusion please. The schedule of events is on our web site. Please check it out for dates for our upcoming baseball events. I know we are all busy, so if there is a date you see that you can't make as a coach, then get an assistant or a team mom to attend in your place. I have scheduled days for scorekeepers training. Let's get parents to these meetings so we don't have any problem with scorekeeping. I am excited about the upcoming season.

See everyone at the fields!

Lonnie Harris
Baseball Chairman

Optimist Club of Arlington 2010 Spring Baseball Committee

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|---|
| Program Chairman | Lonnie Harris | 817-472-8348 lmlfamily33@tx.rr.com |
| Asst. Program Chairman | Chuck Lawrence | 817-784-0171 chucklawrence@sbcglobal.net |
| Shetland Administrator | Zina Lawrence | 817-784-0171 zinalawrence@sbcglobal.net |
| Pinto Administrator | Monica Decker | 972-647-7891 monicadecker@optimistclubofarlington.org |
| Mustang Administrator | Joe Jablon | 817-277-0227 |
| Bronco Administrator | Ricky Esqueda | 817-274-3237 rickyesqueda@yahoo.com |
| Pony Administrator | Ramonda Casey | 817-460-9444 rkcasey@sbcglobal.net |
| Stock Shares | Kevin Ailara | 972-602-4403 kailara@litexfans.com |
| Stock Shares | Ramonda Casey | 817-460-9444 rkcasey@sbcglobal.net |
| Schedules | Gerald Casey | 817-460-9444 gcasey@sbcglobal.net |
| Equipment Room | Gerald Casey | 817-460-9444 gcasey@sbcglobal.net |
| Field Maintenance | Joe Harden | 817-271-3097 |
| Opening Day | Tom Chick | 817-274-9434 tchick1@sbcglobal.net |
| Orientation | Gary Erickson | 817-265-7836 garye51@swbell.net |
| YAC Chairman | Gurvin Lee | 281-359-6241 |
| Coaches Validation | Don Strother | 817-275-1173 donstrother@sbcglobal.net |
| Coaches Badges | Danny Koegler | 817-465-4934 d.koegler@tx.rr.com |
| Sponsorships | Raul Gonzalez | 817-375-3999 gonzalezr@passmanjones.com |
| Club President | Raul Gonzalez | 817-375-3999 gonzalezr@passmanjones.com |

