



THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF COLUMBIA (Downtown Optimist)

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Downtown Optimist Club of Columbia

Zoom/In Person Meeting Newsletter

Monday, November 8, 2021

at Senior Citizen Center

Members attend in person: President Tony Parisio, Jerry Sullivan, Rick McKernan, Pat Brown, Steve Klein, Carl Scott, Red Leighton, John Jones, Steve Winter, Mary Dewey, Charlie Langreder, Ken Oster, Jack Cruise and Mike Hatchett. By zoom Scott Stager. Guest were Bonnie Langreder (Charlie's wife), Beverly Oster (Ken's wife), Clyde Bentley and David Lambett.

Prayer- John Jones and Pledge – Mary Dewey

Birthday/Anniversary: Tony Parisio birthday today

Joke for today by Steve Klein:

God 1st made the non-smart people

God 2nd made board members

John Jones added

God 3th made the Accounting people

Board Meeting on Thursday, November 18th. There is NO funding request. So, we might not have a board meeting this month.

Steve Winter talked about the Koeze Nuts:

1st order is ready to pick up at the clubhouse. Steve hand out the gift cards during the meeting who were there Monday. Ed told Steve last year at this time we were at 65 thousand and this year we are at 72 thousand. The 2nd order will be due on Monday, November 8th by 5:00 pm. This order will be placed by Wednesday, November 10th. The order will be in by Thursday, November 18 and ready to pick up by that weekend. The 3th order will be placed on November 29th and in after Thanksgiving.

C.O. Scheffer talked about the Christmas Trees:

Trees are coming in on Saturday, November 13th by 8:00 am that morning. We will have the Mizzou Baseball players helping again this year with the unloading and drilling of the bigger trees. We will be serving them both breakfast (biscuits and gravy) and lunch (hamburger, and

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chips.) The 2nd load of trees will come in sometime between November 15th and 18th during the day and will need help unloading them at short notice. The drilling of the trees will start the next day Sunday, November 14th. The hours of drilling will be from 8:00 to 11:30 am or 12:00 pm stop for lunch. Then start back up at 1:00 to 4:00 pm. This will be the hours until all the trees are drilled and ready to sell on Black Friday, November 26th.

We will need extra help the first week of sale which Black Friday and our busy weekend. C.O. will adding more slots for this on the sign up sheet. We need to check with other organization to see if they can up with drilling and selling of tree to help us save money from hiring out to other people in the community.

Carl Scott and Tony Parisio picked up everything from HyVee last week and took it to the clubhouse. Carl said, "There was \$25.00 in the piggy bank which he is giving it to Mary Dewey for Childhood Cancer."

Members who paid the piggy bank now that we have it back were:

Mike Hatchett for the TV ads, Mary Dewey for name and pictures on the different website, and Carl Scott.

Carl Scott talked about the State Cross Country Meet that took place this weekend. Father Tolton girls took 1st place as a team and Elyse Wilmes took 1st place individual. Rockbridge Boys team took 2nd place and Andrew Hauser took 1st place. Rockbridge girls took 4th place as a team.

Carl Scott talked about the Food Bank food drive coming up the Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

Mary Dewey has signed up our club to ring the red kettle bells at Pro Bass Shop on Friday, November 12 from 4 to 7 pm and Monday, November 15 from 10 to 12 pm. Please let Mary know if you want to help with this and which day and time. Steve and Rebeca Winter on Friday night from 4 to 7 and Carl and Mary on Monday from 10 to 12pm.

Our guest speaker was Clyde Bentley the president of the Kiwanis Club.

Clyde said, "Kiwanis and Optimist are very similar. Both of us focus on the young people. He is some information about Clyde. When I grew up, though "Kiwanis" meant something to do with baseball because, all the Little League fields in town were labeled "Kiwanis Field 1, Kiwanis Field 2. It's was until he bit older, that he found out that some people called Kiwanis built those fields for kids like me. However, I still did not know who they were.

History of Kiwanis:

Started in 1914 in Detroit. This was the ear of the Great Gatsby, Henry Ford and the thought that anyone can do well if you just have an angle. Kiwanis International was founded in 1915 by a group of businessmen in Detroit, Michigan, United States. The organization was originally called the Supreme Lodge Benevolent Order of Brothers, but changed its name to Kiwanis a year later.

The name "Kiwanis" was coined from an American Indian expression, "Nunc Kee-wanis," which means, "We trade." In 1920, the motto of Kiwanis became "We Build." It remained the motto until 2005, when members voted to change it to "Serving the children of the world." In the early years, members focused on business networking but in 1919, the organization changed its focus to service — specifically service to children.

Kiwanis became an international organization with the founding of the Kiwanis Club of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, in 1916. Kiwanis clubs formed in communities across the United States and Canada until the 1960s, when worldwide expansion was approved. Today, Kiwanis clubs are helping children thrive, prosper and grow in nearly 80 nations and geographic locations.

That's a little embarrassing, but pretty accurate. We do have a good time. Amazing thing was about that time club changed its emphasis from "doing well" to "doing good." That's what turned the funny name-group into one of the world's largest service organizations. **Kiwanis do goo by helping kids.** We like to say "Kids need Kiwanis." I think you could as easily say Kids need Optimist or simply "**Kids need people who care.**"

In 2005 Kiwanis International changed the motto to "**Serving the Children of the World.**" By 1922 the idea of getting together to do goo had spread to Middle American to Columbia, MO with 50 members. At one time, they only took executive business or organization but they take anyone with a good heart for kids. The club then grew quickly and eventually more than 100 members.

The club started the milk program for schoolchildren, built the Columbia Community House and Playground. In 1930s, they established a day camp where they help feed the children during the summer camp, which only last 3 years. It was morphed into the City of Columbia Parks and Recreation program. In 1990 the Kiwanis from Missouri and Arkansas raised money to establish the Kiwanis Pediatric Cardiology Unit to take advantage of a new angioplasty for babies pioneered by Mizzou doctors.

Kiwanis set up the Community Gardens and sponsored a school of the month programs for teachers in the CPS. **Service Leadership Programs** they sponsor the Aktion Club for disabled adults, 2 Builder's club for the middle school age youth, 2 K0kids service clubs at the elementary youth. 2 Key clubs at the high school level and Circle K club at Mizzou and Columbia College.

Closed with the Optimist Creed by Jerry Sullivan.

Meeting end at 1:00 pm

Tony Parisio - President



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