

OPTIMIST CLUB OF FORT SAM HOUSTON

NOON MEETING MINUTES

December 04, 2014

President Fay Hopkins called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM

The following members were present:

Russell Shrader Bob Hogue Ed & Pam Parnell Dean Wilson
 Jack & Fay Hopkins Jack Kellmann Rick Coleman Ray Holmes
 Sarah & "Y" Villarreal Betty Gower

Club Officers All Executive Club Officers were present

Invocation Sarah Villarreal led us in prayer

Pledge of Allegiance..... Ray Holmes led us in the Pledge

Guest..... Navy Senior Chief (Ret) – Benjamin (Ben) McKinley introduced by Ed Parnell

Guest Speaker.... New Friend of Optimist Member Frank Caruso

Future Speakers and Events:

CURRENT CALENDAR

December 9, 2014	Board Meeting
December 11, 2014	Business meeting and stuff the gift bags for the Christmas Party.
December 13, 2014	Christmas Party for Pediatric Oncology/Hematology patients at SAMMC
December 18, 2014	Drew Hicks - Hemisfair Plaza Updates.....
December 25, 2014	Merry Christmas - NO MEETING
January 6, 2015	BOARD MEETING
January 8, 2015	Business Meeting
January 15, 2015	Member and Texas State Senator Carlos Uresti

Table courtesy of fshoc.org and webmaster@stxd.org

December Birthdays:

Becky Kuykendall – 8th
Jack Hopkins – 30th

Minutes:

Sec. Wilson read the November 20, 2014 Noon Meeting Minutes and with no corrections; amendments; comments and discussions, Pres. Hopkins called for and received a motion to approve the minutes as read from Ed Parnell and following a second from Jack Kellmann the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Humor was provided by..... Rick Coleman and Sarah Villarreal

Fines....were collected by Sgt-At-Arms Bob Hogue

Announcements:

This is a private organization and is not affiliated with the Department of Defense or any of its components.

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Pres Hopkins acknowledged the 6:00PM Club Executive/Directors Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 09, 2014 Crown Towers Office Building conference room. Rick Coleman has been tasked with bringing Club Brochures to the Tuesday Board Meeting.

In lieu of the regularly scheduled Noon Meeting, Thursday, December 11, 2014, a "Stuff the Goody Bags" session will convene at the FSH Golf Course.

Pres. Hopkins has made contact with the new teacher sponsors for the Roosevelt High School student "Leo's Club" who reported that eleven (11) "Leos" have signed up to be "Santa's Helpers" at the December 13, 2014 Christmas Party.

Alamo Heights Optimist Club contact Jack Kiser, now in touch with Pres Hopkins has agreed to pass on to their 2014-15 Club President an invitation to attend the Christmas Party as they have partnered with and supported this project in the past.

Ed Parnell's son from Houston has purchased \$400 in toys from Big Lots for \$200. These toys will be donated to the Christmas Party.

On Tuesday December 02, 2014, Pres. Hopkins and Vice-Pres. Jack Hopkins traveled to Laredo, TX to visit the Club's new sister club The Gateway Optimist Club of Laredo. The Hopkins reported that Gateway club members are very energetic and excited about their first project to be held on December 13th for the Be'same House Children's Home in Laredo. They will be taking the children on a shopping spree buying clothes and shoes for Christmas. This project was made possible by the club's first successful fundraiser by contacting Best Buys to donate a 48 inch flat-screen tv; a tablet and an I-pad that they raffled off and raised \$2000 in ten (10) days.

Fay and Jack met with an acquaintance before leaving Laredo and through him there is the potential to form another club in Rio Grande City.

At this time Rick Coleman introduced the Guest Speaker of the day "Friend of Optimist" Club member, Frank Caruso. Frank, a retired marine and long-time friend of Rick and Club Member Bob Richie, is an international corporate lawyer who lives in China. Frank speaks Chinese and represents and advises foreign companies starting up and operating in China. He says there are more foreign companies than Chinese companies in most large Chinese cities. Frank also advises the government of Beijing and the province he lives in on political and economic legal issues. Frank related that surprisingly China today is a relatively free country with very few restrictions on regular travel. Young people from around the world are finding great opportunities and wealth in China. With all that Frank does in China, he, an American partner and his partner's brother from Appalachia have opened the only American restaurant and bar in China serving cold beer; bar-b-q; Steaks and burgers. Frank is in the process of starting up a second restaurant and his partners have brought a lot of their friends over to work and run both of these restaurants.

Kitty Drawing.....Ray Holmes drew Russell Shrader's number for a win of \$12.00.

Optimist Creed.....At this time with all said and all done, Pres. Fay Hopkins led the assembly in the Optimist Creed, after which the bell was struck to adjournment at 12:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dean T Wilson
Club Secretary 2014-15