

OPTIMIST CLUB OF FORT SAM HOUSTON

NOON MEETING MINUTES

June 19, 2014

President Rick Coleman called the meeting to order at 11:58 AM.

The following members were present:

Russell Shrader	Becky Kuykendall	Dean Wilson
Ed & Pam Parnell	Rick Coleman	Jack & Fay Hopkins
Sarah & "Y" Villarreal	Gene Overstreet	

Absent with Leave.....Sgt-At-Arms – Bob Hogue

Invocation.....Sarah led us in prayer

Pledge of Allegiance.....Gene led us in the Pledge

Guests.....Special Guest Speaker:

June Birthdays.....Sarah Villarreal – 1st
Pam Parnell – 9th
Debby Rosenwald – 13th
Ed Parnell – 22nd
Kimberly Coleman – 26th
Bob Ritchie – 26th

Minutes:

Sec. Wilson read the June 12, 2014 Noon Meeting Minutes. Pres. Coleman called for a motion to approve the minutes. Ed Parnell voiced said motion and with a second by Gene Overstreet, the minutes were approved by acclamation.

Note: *At this time in the proceedings Pres. Coleman acknowledged and made a correction to his Noon Meeting Agenda of Club Member Debby Rosenwald's first name from Debbie to Debby, her birth name.*

Announcements:

Sarah announced that Jack Kellmann was not able to attend the meeting as he was finalizing his wife Estelle's discharge from the hospital. Sarah asked all in attendance and throughout the Club membership to keep the Kellmanns in our prayers and wish Estelle a speedy recovery.

Pres. Coleman reminded all that Ed Parnell's Birthday Bar-B-Q and (NOW) New Members Wanted Bash will kick-off on Sunday June 22, 2014 at his home, 3:00PM 6715 Chelsea Wood and if possible bring a friend or two that would like to become an Optimist and join our merry band.

Rick added that he ran into Club Member Bob Richie who in turn thanked Fay for the Optimist Club application as he has a good prospect lined up for membership.

Humor was provided by.....Russell and Dean

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Fines....Acting Sgt-At-Arms – Dean Wilson collected fines

In Lieu of a guest speaker, Sarah asked Club Member Sgt Major of the Marine Corp (Ret.) Gene Overstreet to bring the Club up to date on some of his travels and endeavors.

Gene responded with “I checked off my bucket list one of the things I’ve always wanted to do and that is to travel from coast to coast on a motorcycle”. Well he did just that. Last month he and a friend from Fort Worth, TX rode their “sickles” cross country to San Diego, CA., joined up with about a dozen riders, marines, sailors and army to ride over to Las Vegas, NV where they were hosted at the Leatherneck Club overnight. The next day they joined a group of “Ride For The Wall” riders heading east from San Diego to Washington D.C., the Vietnam Memorial and “Rolling Thunder”. To accommodate the number of riders this year a third route was added to the existing southern and northern routes. Gene rode cross country with a group of about 240 riders, first to Fort Bragg, NC and then on to Washington D.C. had a candlelight vigil at The Wall one night; another night was hosted by an American Legion out of Fairfax, VA with speakers; food and entertainment. All along the way, each night, they were hosted by a VFW or American Legion chapter and/or local churches for food; lodging and entertainment. This being the only group of riders authorized to enter Arlington Cemetery, on Memorial Day a group did so and held a service including laying a wreath at The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. All in all Gene’s trip covered over 6,000 miles, but the “Ride For The Wall” started out with 1,700 riders and along the three different routes ending in Washington D.C. and culminating in the final day of “Rolling Thunder” it was estimated that there were between 900,000 to one million motorcycles in a number of local open parking lots around the Pentagon.

Rick brought out that he received a letter from O.I. Foundation thanking him for his participation in the 2013-14 Dime-A-Day Program.

Fay added all who donated to the program have/or will receive a lapel pin and a thank you letter from O.I. Foundation.

Ed Parnell spoke on families in discord and the price they have to pay in misery for not seeking out professional help in finding a solution to their problem without litigation. Someone in that family or all involved will most likely suffer for the remainder of their lives.

Kitty Drawing:

Ray Holmes drew Gene’s number for a win of \$10.00.

Optimist Creed:

At this time, Gene was asked to lead the assembly in the Optimist Creed, after which the bell was rung to adjournment at 12:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dean T Wilson
Club Secretary 2013-14

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