

## Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Chaplain Sidney Sandridge opened today's luncheon meeting with a prayer, and then led us in the pledge of allegiance. We had a pretty good turnout of over 20, but Pres. Jim Roe noted there were no guests, however, it was good to have our two newest members Alfred Adams and Fabiani Duarte present. Gay passed around a sign-up sheet for next week's Christmas Party Thursday, December 9, at 6:30 pm in our regular meeting room at the Downtown Holiday Inn. She reminded us that those wanting to participate in the gift swapping should bring a \$10 gift. She added that two special guests will be included, but gave no details.

Bob Martin reminded us of the Monday, December 13, Christmas Charities 6:00 pm work session out at their location on the East side of the Ardmore Highway. If you reach the Mastin Lake Road crossing, you've gone a bit too far. Furthermore, Bob said a supply of batteries (D-cell, C-cell, AA, and 9-volt) for the toys would be welcome. These can be brought to the Christmas Party. Bob expects several Sparkman Junior Optimists to help with this support project.

Al Renz recognized Jim Roe and Jim Berry as having reached PGI (personal growth and involvement) Level II, and that he's awaiting confirmation that both have met all requirements for Level III.



Jim Berry introduced our speaker, Chuck Vedane, from the IMS (Interfaith Mission Service) organization. Chuck recalled

first speaking to our club on his work back in 1979. Essentially the IMS goal is to build and maintain a beloved community right here in Huntsville, through the combined co-operation of faith-based congregations. From its beginning

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in 1969, nine widely diverse congregations decided to promote human decency by overcoming all forms of poverty, discrimination, homelessness, and economic inequity; and to strive for economic justice. For those needing medical attention IMS buses provide weekly transportation to our Community Free Clinic. This is just one example of their community service. Today, Huntsville stands as a global leader where love and understanding between cultures prevails. This has helped immensely in attracting international business to our city. The dedication of people such as Chuck Vedane and his colleagues in advancing our general welfare is certainly appreciated by all.

Al Renz won the money today. Jim Pepper passed around a jug for an opportunity to relieve your pockets of change or bills to support the Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign.

## **CALENDAR**

12/07	Tuesday 4:00 pm <b>Board Meeting</b>	1st Commercial Bank
12/09	Thursday 6:30 pm Downtown Holiday Inn Christmas Party - Bring a Gift To Exchange Bring Batteries For Christmas Charities	
12/13	Monday 6:00 pm  Christmas Charities on Jordan Lane  Sorting Christmas Gifts	
12/16	Thursday 11:45 <b>Business Meeting -</b>	Optimist Recreation Center

