

Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Jim Roe
256-883-8950
j_m_roe@yahoo.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Pepper
256-655-9659
jpepper777@msn.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Berry
256-539-2101
jberryn@bellsouth.net

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Al Renz
256-772-7929
optimist3480@aol.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Bob Martin
256-722-8062
bmartin12@bellsouth.net

VOL. 65, No. 15, January 27, 2011

We had a good turnout today in anticipation of our advertised program. I counted about 30 – more than our guarantee of 22. Some eaters were directed to the dining room's buffet line. Sidney Sandridge offered our prayer and led us in the pledge of allegiance. Again, it happened that our scheduled speaker didn't show, so Pres. Jim Roe was once again challenged to be innovative in recruiting a substitute. Before that, however, he had guests introduced. Chev Kellogg (it was good to have him back) introduced his wife Betty. Jim Berry introduced Dr. George McDonough, formerly head of MSFC's Science & Engineering Directorate.



VANDERBILT
UNIVERSITY

Then Pres. Jim announced that Fabiani Duarte had agreed to tell of his experiences as a student first at Grace Lutheran (note his recent picture in the Huntsville Times), then at Randolph, and then his 4 years at Vanderbilt. Today, he is employed at a local real estate firm negotiating contracts, but soon he will be off to law school. His presentation could easily fall into the motivational category. He based his remarks on advice given to him personally by Vandy's Chancellor:

- a) Never forget where you came from.
- b) Never allow yourself to be bored.
- c) Always remember your family first.

DIRECTORS

Tom Casteel
256-714-4677
tom@leetsac.net

Connie Gipson
256-534-1384
cfgipson@yahoo.com

Matt Hancock
256-990-0077
wmhancock@wolfejones.com

Buddy Beck
256-837-9722

Gay Pepper
256-617-0742
gaypepper@fcb-hsv.com

Patti Walker
256-829-1312
patti.walker@bxs.com

Fabiani considers the Optimist Club to be part of his family, and he gave us several examples of his growth, stemming from early essay and oratorical contests, to organization and leadership of Randolph's Junior Optimist Club, and to numerous successes in college, culminating in his being named most outstanding senior of one of our nation's most prestigious universities. Already, as one of our club's newest members he is active in motivating and spreading his philosophy to JOOI Clubs at Randolph and Sparkman, bringing his enthusiasm to the success of our current essay and oratorical endeavors, and in general promoting a new spark of Optimism to overall club community service projects.

Al Renz has tickets for the Saturday, February 5th playground fundraiser at the Jay Cee Building. Tickets are \$25 or two for \$40. I think he said 15 caterers will be providing samples of their specialties. There will be silent and oral auctions of memorabilia, and celebrity designed and decorated cookies. The event starts at 6:00 pm. Al added that last year the Kiwanians out-attended us. Let's turn this around. I attended last year and can attest to the great food. The playground and those spending many hours promoting this project could stand a good vote of confidence and gratitude for their dedication.

This week February program chairman Jim Pepper will introduce a local lady, Tina Cranfill, and her son, Logan McElyea. They will report on the acute leukemia treatment he is undergoing at St. Jude's Hospital. The bucket that Jim passes around at meetings gives each of us the opportunity to contribute to this Optimist International program. OI gave Jim the assurance that we could earmark funds locally in this way. St. Jude's gave us the recipient's name, and our Board concurred.

Gay won the attendance prize.

W

CALENDAR

- 1/27 Thurs.11:45 Downtown Holiday Inn
**Ken Ward, Phd, Alabama A&M Forestry,
Ecology & Wildlife Program**
- 2/3 Thurs.11:45 Downtown Holiday Inn
TBA - Jim Pepper
- 2/10 Thurs.11:45 Downtown Holiday Inn
Dr. Russo - Women's Cancer
- 2/15 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank
Board Meeting
- 2/17 Thurs.11:45 Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting -
- 2/24 Thurs.11:45 Downtown Holiday Inn
Martha Pullen - St. Judes

Optimistic Quote of The Week

"One of the things I learned the hard way was that it doesn't pay to get discouraged. Keeping busy and making optimism a way of life can restore your faith in yourself. "

Lucille Ball