

# Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

## OFFICERS

VOL. 65, No. 46, September 1, 2011

### 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

VP Jim Pepper presided over today's luncheon meeting at the Downtown Holiday Inn. He called on Clyde for the opening prayer and to lead us in the pledge of allegiance.

Alberto introduced his guest Tom Naatz from Grace Lutheran School. Tom is an 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and sponsor of our JOOI Club at that institution. He expressed thanks to our club for working with them to make this a reality, and he seems dedicated to the club's success. Alberto reminded us of the upcoming pancake breakfast Saturday morning September 24 at Central Presbyterian and he supplied more tickets to those needing them. Students from the Grace Lutheran JOOI Club will help at the breakfast.

Furthermore, Alberto announced that Fabiani will be talking "Optimism" to middle school principals in November, encouraging them to support our Oratorical Contest, Essay Contest, JOOI Clubs, and the possibility of playing an Optimist band instrument. Alberto will keep us informed as to the time and place of the meeting, and he hopes several Optimists will attend to support Fabiani.



Al Renz introduced Melvin Allen, CEO of the Harvest Youth Club located on Lockhart Road in Harvest. For over a decade now, Melvin has been inspiring Christ-like activities for the 5 to 15 year olds in that community. Melvin's strong spiritual leadership came across in his presentation today, and the club has enjoyed impressive growth. Today, Melvin emphasized the club's role, following the April tornado.

The Lockhart community was especially badly hit. 41 of the 105 homes were completely destroyed and a like number were significantly damaged. Melvin said the club felt impelled

## 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

Fabiani Duarte  
256-880-8106  
fabiani.a.duarte@gmail.com

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

to respond. As he put it "If God calls you to do it, he'll get you through it." Melvin's leadership is well documented by his election to both high school and college halls of fame for his work as a basketball point guard on two championship teams.

Melvin broke down the response to a disaster to 3 phases: first response, relief, and recovery; and he expounded on each of these. He was grateful for the large number of qualified and equipped volunteers rapidly moving here from other states. FEMA didn't appear for several days and weren't ready to lead, but just to support the local effort. Harvest is fortunate to have Melvin Allen at this particular time.

Clyde won the drawing again (ho hum). VP Jim said Logan is not doing too well, and if you wanted to make a contribution to him a bag was available at the badge box.



## Optimistic Quote of The Week

**"Having a positive mental attitude is asking how something can be done rather than saying it can't be done."**

*Bo Bennett*

## CALENDAR

- |      |   |                                      |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 9/8  | Thursday 11:45 am                                   | Downtown Holiday Inn                 |
|      | <b>TBA - Jim Pepper</b>                             |                                      |
| 9/13 | Tuesday 4:00 pm                                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Commercial Bank      |
|      | <b>Board Meeting</b>                                |                                      |
| 9/15 | Thursday 11:45                                      | Optimist Recreation Center           |
|      | <b>Business Meeting - Food - Al Renz</b>            |                                      |
| 9/24 | Saturday 7:30 to 11:30                              | Cooper House<br>Central Presbyterian |
|      | <b>Pancake Breakfast for Hawthorne Conservatory</b> |                                      |
| 9-29 | Thursday TBA pm                                     | TBA                                  |
|      | <b>Installation of Officers</b>                     |                                      |