



Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Business Meeting Minutes

Opening

Twenty-one Optimists met at the ORC meeting room. It was good to see Ralph Caneer after a lengthy absence from club meetings. Byrom Goodwin catered today's lunch, a gourmet sandwich with drink and chips from Steak Out. It was announced that today is Fabiani Duarte's 24th birthday, and he was honored by song and a delicious cake (supplied by Alberto).

Treasurer's Report

Al Renz gave his usual comprehensive Treasurer's report. Highlighted was that the Club has received \$6,700 from the Optimist Foundation to compensate the Club for Youth Activity expenses. The Club subsequently repaid \$600 of the \$3,395 owed to the Foundation. Al reported that Jeff Klimek resumed his payments to the court at \$1,800 per month. Once his car payments and the IRS are satisfied, the club will begin receiving monthly payments towards the amount due us (as of today) of \$62,849.06.

JOOI Clubs Report

Fabiani reported on the various JOOI clubs. Today (Thursday) at 5:30 p.m. there will be an election of officers their subsequent installation at Morris Elementary School. Morris Elementary is our first Alpha Club (JOOI Clubs for elementary schools) formed for fourth and fifth graders. Pizza, cake, and drinks will be provided for this occasion. A good Optimist presence was encouraged for this event.

The Hazel Green JOOI Club will be installed on February 29th at 3:00 p.m. Club sponsors have been identified at Chapman MS and Hampton Cove MS, and sign-up sheets and information have been distributed. Ed White MS already has some service

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clubs, so there is discussion on the feasibility of merging them with a JOOI club there. The Hazel Green JOOI club's installation will be February 29th at 3:00 p.m.

Al Renz reported that he and Fabiani had found a local source for banners and pins for our JOOI Clubs, Accurate Printing. The design and quality of these items looks to be very good, and their cost is less than what can be obtained from Optimist International.

Tom Casteel reported that the District is sponsoring a District Meeting for JOOI clubs in Meridian, MS, on the weekend of March 10. He stated that our Club will pay the expenses of two delegates from each of our JOOI clubs should they care to attend. Tom needs the Optimist Points of Contact to find if there are club delegates who will attend. The event this year will be run entirely by JOOI club members and will be well chaperoned.

Administrative Procedures Manual

Tom Casteel handed out copies of a preliminary revision B of the Club's Administrative Procedures Manual for review by the membership. The B revision adds paragraphs defining membership classes for JOOI club parents and sponsors and for Reserve Members. Tom had also reformatted the manual to add a Change Record Sheet, change bars, and decimal paragraph numbers.

There was much discussion on the dues that should be charged for these membership classes, plus what incentive(s) there would be for parents of JOOI club members to join. Concern was expressed on the cost of membership for JOOI club parents, especially those from Title I schools. Al Renz reported that the Club pays \$71.62 per year to the District and to OI for each member of the club, and that would also apply to the JOOI club parents/sponsors membership.

This manual will be reviewed and these issues resolved by the Board of Directors at their next meeting prior to a formal vote of the membership. If you didn't get a copy of the manual at the meeting or didn't receive one by mail (electronic or snail), contact Tom.

Youth Appreciation Banquet

Gay Pepper reported that the Youth Appreciation Banquet is being restructured this year to honor our JOOI clubs. Two club officers, their parents, and the club sponsor will be invited to the banquet in April. She is pinning down a date with Mayfair Church of Christ for the banquet. The committee is looking into presenting

various awards at the banquet, such as “Outstanding Project,” “Best Fund-Raising Project,” and “Outstanding JOOI Club, 2012.” This format will allow clubs to share what has worked for them and also insert a little competition among the JOOI clubs we sponsor.

Club Tee Shirts

Tom Casteel wore a prototype of our Club tee shirt to the meeting today. He passed around a sheet for members to sign up for one and give their size. They are royal blue polo shirts with a pocket and come in sizes from Small to 3X large. The club logo will be embroidered on the right chest. Cost is \$17.00 each. Call or email Tom if you want to order a shirt. Do this now as the order goes in February 20th.

Playground

There will be another fund-raiser at Logan’s Roadhouse on March 12. Playground sponsoring clubs and celebrities will supply waiters on 2-hour shifts, and their tips will go directly to the playground. Our Club has been asked to supply one or waiters for the event. Two similar events in the past have netted about \$8,000 and \$10,000 respectively. About \$125,000 is still needed to fund the planned water park at the playground.

Foundation Report

Bill Clarke reported that January was a good month for the Foundation’s balance at Regions, earning a little over \$30,000 for the month. The Board of Director has appointed a Financial Review Committee consisting of Tom Casteel, John Shirey, Gay Pepper, and Bill Clarke.

Upcoming Meeting Notes

Alberto reminded the club of the Oratorical Contest on March 10, 9:00 a. m. at the Cooper House. Jim Berry, program chairman for March, urged all Optimists to attend the March 1 meeting to hear a heart-warming talk on “The Widow’s Mite” program. President Jim reported that there will be no meeting on the fifth Thursday in March in accordance with the policy passed last year to save money.

Clyde Merins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“In the central place of every heart there is a recording chamber. So long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer and courage, you are young.”

~General Douglas MacArthur

CALENDAR

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|------|-------------------|--|
| 2/23 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn |
| | | Mr. Brooks Wilborn - Big Brothers-Big Sisters |
| 2/28 | Tuesday 3:00 pm | 1 st Commercial Bank |
| | | Foundation Board Meeting |
| 3/1 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn |
| | | "The Widow's Mite" Program |
| 3/6 | Tuesday 4:00 pm | 1 st Commercial Bank |
| | | Club Board Meeting |
| 3/8 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn |
| | | TBD - Jim Berry" |
| 3/15 | Thursday 11:45 am | Optimist Recreation Center |
| | | Business Meeting - Food – (Jim Berry) |
| 3/22 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn |
| | | TBD - Jim Berry" |
| 3/29 | | 5TH THURSDAY - NO MEETING |