



Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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Twenty Optimists attended our meeting today. The Holiday Inn had the buffet line open for our lunch today, featuring Salisbury steak and hot blackberry cobbler in addition to the usual salads, soups, vegetables, and desserts.

Opening

Newly installed President Tom Casteel asked Rev. Jim Berry to open the meeting with an invocation, and Milt Williams led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

Tom reported that he will be installing the officers at the South Huntsville Optimist Club this evening, the club in which he first became an Optimist 20 years ago. He recalled how he was recruited at that time, and urged all of us to ask somebody!

If you haven't signed up for the meeting with Dr. Wardynski next Thursday, you need to do it now. Because of the large attendance, our meeting will be moved to Grand Ballroom "B." Also, because of the nature of this meeting, and its importance to our club and to Huntsville, you are requested to **attend in business attire** (coat and tie).

The recently distributed policy on how the Club takes in new members will be voted on at the business meeting this month.

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A pair of ladies' sunglasses was found at the conclusion of the Installation Banquet. Please call Tom if they belong to you or your spouse.

Program



Alfred Adams introduced our speaker for today, Mr. Brian Hicks, Athletic Director at Alabama A & M University. Brian is a native Huntsvillian, having attended Rolling Hills Elementary School, Davis Hills Middle School, and Lee High School who was hired as A & M's Athletic Director this summer.

Brian recounted his career ladder, beginning as a Public Relations Officer in Oregon with the USDA, then as coach at Warner Pacific College and associate director in the athletic departments of the University of Louisville and Missouri State University before coming to Alabama A & M.

Brian expressed his happiness at returning to his home town where he had maintained close friendships with his high-school friends, and to Alabama A & M where his father and several uncles and an aunt had attended. He said he sees the potential of the university to grow, to attract the best and brightest students, and to "be a player" in the Huntsville community.

He said his three basic tenets in life are: (1) Be accountable, (2) Be responsible, and (3) Be a life-long learner. He loves sports of all kinds, and has been privileged to be an official representative of his university to football bowl games, national soccer finals, and the College World Series.

Brian fielded several questions: Should college athletes be paid? (No, but perhaps they could be helped to get their degree after their playing days are over); should college football players be allowed to go pro before their junior years? (No, but other sports are less restricted), and how widespread are recruiting violations? (Who knows? Probably a lot more

than reported, but major ones usually get caught). On the last item, Brian says he holds his coaches responsible to obey the NCAA rules. He tells them, "If you don't know, ask!"

Brian closed by saying he will personally continue to push the envelope, try new things and get smarter every day.

Closing

Jim Berry won the attendance prize on the first drawing. Dr. Carl Winkler, a member of the Optimist Club of Huntsville for 57 years, led us in the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

Optimism is a strategy for making a better future. Because unless you believe that the future can be better, you are unlikely to step up and take responsibility for making it so. If you assume there is no hope, you guarantee there will be no hope.

~Norm Chomsky

10/11 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Dr. Casey Wardynski - Huntsville City

School Superintendant

10/18 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food - (Fabiani Duarte)

10/25 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Representative from The Village of Promise

The following changes are to be made to our Policy and Procedures manual.

Add the following paragraphs describing the membership process.

6.1 MEMBERSHIP

6.1.1 Application

An Optimist International membership application form that bears the endorsement of a member in good standing along with a check for \$30.00 shall be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

6.1.2 Membership Committee

The Secretary-Treasurer shall immediately refer all such applications to the Membership Committee for review. The Membership Committee shall review the application within seven days and recommend the applicant's election or rejection.

6.1.2 Club Approval

If approved by the Membership Committee, the Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the membership of the identity of the proposed member at the next meeting of the Club for vote by the club.

6.1.3 Post Processing

If the application is approved by the club, the Secretary-Treasurer shall submit the new member's information with registration payment to Optimist International and mail a pro-rated invoice for the current quarter dues to the new member.

Add the following paragraph outlining the fees for a college member.

6.6.1.4 College Club Members

The dues for members attending college full-time shall be \$10.00 per quarter. They shall pay the current meal cost for any meetings they attend.

THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself -

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Optimist International



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TO: