



PRESIDENT

Tom Casteel
256-882-9380
tom@leetsac.net

VICE PRESIDENTS

George McDonough
256-534-2591
gfmcdonough@yahoo.com

Fabiani Duarte
256-468-9848
fabiani.a.duarte@gmail.com

SECRETARY TREASURER

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

Club meets
1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays
At 11:45 am
Downtown Holiday Inn
Huntsville, AL

Opti - Topics

Opening

A fine turnout of 24 Optimists, 2 guests, and our speaker assembled at the Downtown Holiday Inn today. Our two guests were Vastell Williams, guest of Al Adams, and Jean Payne, guest of George McDonough. Vastell has turned in his application to become our newest member. It was good to see Gay Pepper in attendance. She told me she'd been quite busy at work lately. Rev. Jim Berry gave the invocation on this National Day of Prayer, and Matt Hancock led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements



Tom reported that member Dallas Clark passed away Monday, April 29, 2013. Dallas had been a member of the Huntsville Optimist Club since 1972. He served as president of the club in 1976-77 and was the AL-MS District Secretary Treasurer in 1985-86 when Zack Thompson was District Governor.

His funeral will be on Saturday, May 4th, at the Laughlin Service Funeral Home, 2320 Bob Wallace AVE SW, Huntsville. Visitation will be from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The funeral service will follow in the chapel. Please keep his family in your prayers.

Tom also reported that Milt Williams was having surgery today to repair a broken ankle. Milt took a nasty fall while weak from an illness which resulted in the injury.

**Our business meeting
is held on the 3rd
Thursday of the
month at the Optimist
Recreation Center on
Oakwood Avenue**

DIRECTORS

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

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

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

Alfred G. Adams
502-541-6469
alfredg.adams@gmail.com

Byrom Goodwin
256-881-3113

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

Newsletter Editor

Clyde Nevins
256-881-8215
clyde.nevins@Juno.com

President Tom announced that he has copies of the Club's new Membership Invitation form and Member Interest Finder form available. These forms are also available on the Club's web site under Member Resources.



President Tom reminded everyone of the Zone's Respect for Law banquet next Monday at the Mayfair Church of Christ. Because of this banquet **there will be no Club meeting at the DTHI next week.**



Fabiani Duarte reported that the JOOI Club Zone Conference on Saturday, May 11, is shaping up nicely, but that additional help is needed for the logistics to put on the conference. He asked for volunteers, and these members stepped up:

Registration: George McDonough, Tom Casteel

Name tags: Al Renz

Election of Lt. Governor: John Inman , Gay Pepper

Awards: Jim Otto

Fabiani reported that the seminar leaders are in place, as well. The conference is to be at Lee High School and goes from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers need to be in place at Lee no later than 11:30 a. m. on the day of the conference.



Band Committee Chairman Al Adams reminded all his committee members to schedule their school's band awards and the return of their instruments to our band closet at the ORC. Tom Casteel said the instruments should not be taken directly to Robbins Music since our agreement with them limits the number of instruments they are asked to refurbish at one time.

John Inman announced that Still Serving Veterans, the Chamber of Commerce and the Women's Business Center of North Alabama will sponsor a Job Fair on May 17. The fair is free to veterans, but will cost \$25 to others. The Job Fair will be held at the Redstone Credit Union's Office on Wynn Dr. A flyer for the event is attached, if you know a Vet pass it on.

Program



Program Chairman Al Renz introduced our speaker for today, Jason Simpson, Chief Meteorologist at Channel 19 in Huntsville. Jason has been at Channel 19 since January, 2012, having come from ABC 30/40 in Birmingham. He is staunch advocate for science education in the classroom and was instrumental in building the curriculum for elementary and middle school science classes called the “ABC’s of Weather.”

Jason began by saying he enjoys very much speaking to civic groups and clubs such as ours, but few matched the welcoming environment he received today. He said he is available if there is any way he can help our Club in its youth programs.

Jason's interesting and informative talk covered the history of tornadoes in the Huntsville/Madison County area. Since 1951 there have been 67 tornadoes, including three EF-5's and two EF-4's. He said there are two statistical “hot spots” for tornadoes to occur: Harvest, in NW Madison County, and Airport Road in Huntsville. He said there is good evidence that topography of our county is a significant factor in why these hot spots occur, but it is not proven. Geography also plays a big role in why tornadoes are formed in this part of the U. S., since this is where the moist air from the Gulf and the cold air from Canada frequently clash.

Jason advocated everyone follow three rules to keep safe in our tornado-prone environment:

- (1) Be prepared,
- (2) Know the “enemy”
- (3) Use common sense and good judgment.

Everyone should have either a weather radio or an app on their smart phone or I-pad. Channel 19 has a free “Live Alert” download that includes a call to your smart phone.

If you live in a historically tornado prone area, invest in an underground tornado shelter. Jason said there is much work to be done to help and inform those who live in mobile home parks.

If a tornado warning is issued, stay calm; go to the lowest and most central location in your home. Do not make unnecessary cell phone calls to prevent overloading towers and inhibiting critical phone calls—use texting if at all possible.

Jason fielded several questions covering whether man influenced global warming, the meteorological cause of “microbursts,” the interaction of TV weathermen with the local U. S. Weather Service Office and the competition between Huntsville’s TV weathermen.

Jason closed his talk by repeating his offer to help the club where he is able.

Closing

Our speaker drew Byrom Goodwin’s name on the first draw. Dr. Carl Winkler led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

The membership committee has approved the membership application from Vastell Williams. Members have until May 9th to comment.

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“As I approve of a youth that has something of the old man in him, so I am no less pleased with an old man that has something of the youth. He that follows this rule may be old in body, but can never be so in mind.”

~ *Marcus Tullius Cicero*

PHOTOS



Al Renz and Jason Simpson Converse during Lunch



Our newest member - Vastell Williams sponsored by Alfred Adams



Peggy and Jim Otto



**T/Sgt George Ferrell taken in Edinburgh Scotland,
July 1944 while on furlough after 30 missions.**

George has been a member of our club since 1956.

He was sponsored by Carl Winkler

CALENDAR

5/6 Monday 6:30 pm Mayfair Church of Christ

Respect for Law Banquet

5/7 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

Board Meeting

5/9 Thursday **No Meeting**

5/16 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food - (Al Renz)

5/23 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Leah Amos -President Junior Achievement of North Alabama

5/30 Thursday **No Meeting (5th Thursday)**

6/4 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

Board Meeting

6/6 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD - Tim Vander Veer

6/13 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD - Tim Vander Veer

2nd Annual Empowering Our Veterans Entrepreneurship & Employment

Are you a **Veteran, Transitioning Active-Duty Service Member**, or **Military Spouse**?

Do you want to **be your own boss**? Hands-on training sessions give you the tools you need to start a business, secure financing and market with impact.
Do you need assistance **finding the right job**? Dynamic workshops deliver tips for budgeting, networking and interviewing skills for today's market.
Do you need help **improving your resume**, so that it stands out from the crowd? One-on-one tips from HR pros will help make improvements on the spot.

Are you a **Human Resources Professional** who wants to **Recruit Veterans**?

Master strategies for recruiting & hiring Veterans. Maximize the financial and performance benefits of having Veterans on your team.
Build a stronger workplace by managing diversity and understanding the challenges facing Veteran employees.

Then the **Empowering Our Veterans** event is for **YOU!**

Host Sponsor

REDSTONE
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Silver Sponsor

KAYA
Associates, Inc

Bronze Sponsors

Morgan Stanley

AMS
Assurance & Strategic Solutions
A Division of Camber + Dynetics

Davidson
Technologies Inc.

PINNACLE
SOLUTIONS
A Division of Pinnacle Capital Management


EMERSON
Network Power


WID
WOMEN IN
DEFENSE
A NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION

TIG
THE LIOCE GROUP
NEW DIMENSION IN BUSINESS

Representative Phil Williams

SBA
U.S. Small Business Administration

HUNTSVILLE
The Sky is not the limit[®]

Friday, May 17, 2013

Redstone Federal Credit Union Technology Center · 220 Wynn Drive · Huntsville

Registration: 8:30a.m. – 9:00a.m.

Training Workshops: 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Entrepreneurial Courses: Starting Your Business, Financing Your Business, Marketing Your Business
Employment Courses: Financial Management, Resume Development, Social Media, Interviewing Skills
Corporate Employer Courses: Best Practices in Hiring Veterans, Recruiting Veterans & Understanding Tax Benefits, Veterans & Diversity in the Workforce

One-on-One Resume Critiques: 9:00a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Bring a copy of your resume – both hard and soft copy. HR professionals will review & critique your resume, and you can use our computer lab to make improvements and print changes right away!

Keynote Luncheon: 12:00p.m. – 1:00p.m.

Overcoming Economic Uncertainty

Keynote Speakers: Jae Barclay, CEO – Working Wounded Warriors Corporation
Clayton Hinchman, CEO – USi, LLC

Career Fair & Business Expo: 1:00p.m. – 3:00p.m.

All attendees can put their skills to use right away! Network with companies seeking to recruit Veterans for employment and entrepreneurship opportunities!

Cost to Attend

Veterans, Active Duty & Their Spouses: Free
Non-Veteran: \$50

You must register online in order to reserve your space and to receive a lunch.

Register Online

www.wbcna.org/calendar

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



Huntsville Optimist Club
710 Versailles Drive
Huntsville, AL 35803-1728



TO: