



**OPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL**

*Friend of Youth*

**PRESIDENT**

George McDonough  
256-534-2591

gfmcdonough@yahoo.com

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Alfred G. Adams  
502-541-6469

alfredg.adams@gmail.com

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

John Inman  
256-425-8022

inman\_john@hotmail.com

**SECRETARY TREASURER**

Al Renz  
256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

**Club meets**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays**

**At 11:45 am**

**Mullins Restaurant**

**Huntsville, AL**

**Our business meeting  
is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Thursday of the**

**month at the Optimist  
Recreation Center on**

**Oakwood Ave**

# Opti - Topics

## Opening



Eighteen Optimists attended our inaugural Club meeting at Mullins Restaurant today. Despite this being the first meeting there, things went pretty well. The meeting's ending time was not significantly later than a typical meeting at the Holiday Inn. Other observations:

- ❖ The servers were very friendly and efficient.
- ❖ The food was very good, reasonably priced and plentiful.
- ❖ The meeting room's acoustics are not nearly as good as what we enjoyed at the Downtown Holiday Inn. Conversation takes a lot more care.
- ❖ Tables are arranged such that several members will have to be seated with their backs to the speaker while eating.
- ❖ It helps to have a unique (to the Club) name like "Zack," "Clyde," or even "Tom," to keep from getting another member's order when they are brought from the kitchen (each check has a member's name written on it).
- ❖ If you order something other than what's on the menu for the day, e. g. fried catfish, expect it to take a little longer before you are served.

A big **Thank You** to Treasurer Al Renz who picked up all the checks and paid for them, saving individual Club members from standing in the cashier line after the meeting. Al will be billing everyone this quarter at your current rate. At the business meeting we will discuss recommendations made by the Board of Directors and

## DIRECTORS

Don Holder  
256-881-4655  
don\_holder@comcast.net

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

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

Gay Pepper  
256-288-4321  
gaypepper@fcb-hsv.com

Jim Roe  
256-883-8950  
j\_m\_roe@yahoo.com

## PAST PRESIDENT

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

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

vote on the dues – meals structure. Whatever plan we select, you will get credit for the dues you have paid.

Rev. Jim Berry gave the invocation, and John Shirey led the Club in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Announcements



Membership Chairman Tom Casteel announced the addition of **a new member**, Kathy Anderson. Kathy is President George McDonough's daughter. She has already signed up to serve on the Band Instrument Program, the Essay Contest, and the Fund Raising Committee.

Duane Plank reported that Club member Chev Kellogg has been seriously ill with heart and bladder problems, at times in a coma. He has been in and out of Intensive Care at Huntsville Hospital. Duane asked for prayer for him.

Buddy Beck had reported earlier that while on a recent trip to the Gulf Coast, he tried to contact Club member Jerry Shoemaker, who maintains a home in the area. The person answering Jerry's telephone told Buddy that Jerry had passed away, but would give him no additional details. Today, Tom Casteel said he had scoured the internet, but could not find an obituary for Jerry in any of the applicable newspapers.

President George McDonough said there are a few additional items resulting from the Board of Directors meeting, but they will be covered at the Club's business meeting. **We will meet at the ORC next week**, as it is the third Thursday in January.



Committee Chairman Jesse Lang announced that the Club's Tri-Star Basketball competition will be held on Saturday, January 18. He has fliers available. This is one of the few Club activities where we can interact directly with the youth of our community. Come on out and join in the fun.

## Program

Program Chairman John Inman introduced our speaker for today, Ms. Dawn Pumpelly, Co-Owner of *The Commons*, a 55+ Active Adult Community. Ms. Pumpelly is also active in the community, being Board Chairman for CASA, and a member of the Rotary Club. She and her family have been active in senior living facilities for many years, and she began helping at age 10.

Ms. Pumpelly gave a PowerPoint presentation on how they arrived at the characteristics of *The Commons*. She said they relied heavily on research done by AARP's Research Institute. Six of the 14 significant findings from this research were these trends for Baby Boomers (born between 1946 & 1965):

1. Older people will be "younger" in their life styles
2. Older people will be healthier, wealthier, and better educated.
3. Medical advances and technology (e. g. joint replacement) will positively impact the vitality of the elderly.
4. There will be a much higher standard of living now, as opposed to 20 years ago.
5. Men will live longer, which will promote independence of a couple.
6. Older people will have more support from their children.

In addition to these, there is also a much higher health awareness (e. g., the perils of smoking), access to technology (via the internet), and the prevalence of vaccines and genetic screening.

As a result, *The Commons* is a rental community that promotes independent living. It is more like apartment living, with amenities such as housekeeping or meals being available at extra cost on an a la carte basis. Co-located on the site is *The Country Cottage*, an assisted living facility that a resident can transfer to, if need be.

Ms. Pumpelly stated that current rentals range from \$915 per month for the smallest apartment (700 square feet) to \$1955 for the largest (1300 square feet).

This rental amount includes all utilities. She also stated that other costs such as phone and internet are available at lower costs than a typical homeowner currently pays.

In closing, Ms. Pumpelly handed out interest forms, and all those who filled in their names and e-mail addresses became eligible for a drawing. Rev. Jim Berry drew from a dozen or so forms, and Buddy Beck took home the prize.

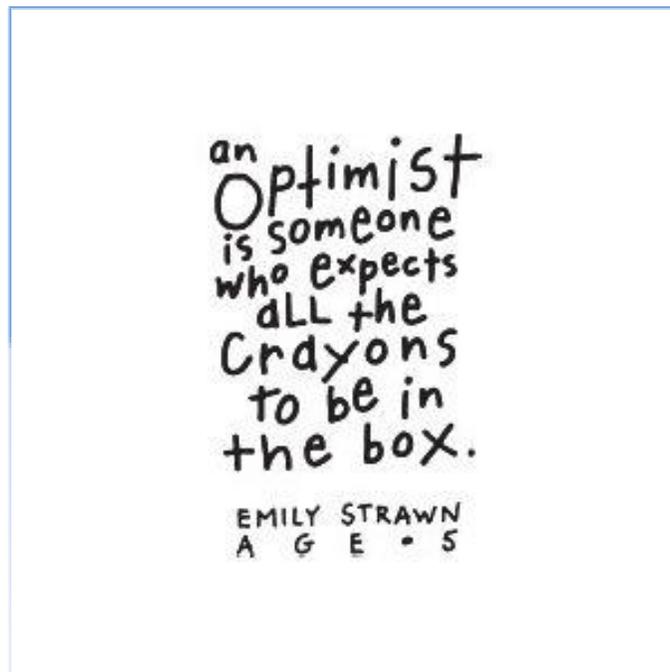
## **Closing**

President George thanked our speaker for her talk, and gave her a tile with the Optimist Creed as a memento. He asked Mrs. Pumpelly to draw for our attendance prize. Fabiani Duarte's name was drawn first, and he missed out by not being present. Jim Berry's name was drawn second, and he took home the money.

Dr. Carl Winkler led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Clyde Nevins*

## **Optimistic Quote of the Week**



## CALENDAR

- 1/16 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food - (John Inman)**
- 1/23 Thursday 11:45 am Mullins Restaurant  
**TBD - John Inman**
- 1/30 Thursday **No Meeting (5<sup>th</sup> Thursday)**
- 2/4 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank  
**Board Meeting**

## - PHOTOS -



**Our Speaker - Dawn Pumpelly**



**John Inman**



**Buddy Beck with Door Prize**

## THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself -

**T**o be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

**T**o talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

**T**o make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

**T**o look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true

**T**o think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

**T**o be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

**T**o forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

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

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

**T**o 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:**