



**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

The Optimist Club of Huntsville held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting at the Optimist Recreation Center today. Seventeen Optimists attended the meeting, and those who came enjoyed an excellent barbecue lunch, catered by Granville's and delivered by Duane Plank. Sides included potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw and banana pudding.

President George McDonough asked Clyde Nevins to give the opening prayer, and Bob Martin to lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Treasurer's Report



President George asked Treasurer Al Renz to elaborate on his monthly Treasurer's Report that was provided to all attendees. Al's report covered 10 months ending on July 31, 2014.

Al covered these highlights from the report:

- ❖ The Club now has 36 members, the lowest in 10 years
- ❖ The Club received Jeff Klimek's 4<sup>th</sup> monthly payment in the amount of \$170. So far, Jeff has repaid \$455. He still owes the Club \$65,070.13.
- ❖ The Bank Balance at the end of July was \$6,250.38
- ❖ At the end of July, there was \$1,260 in outstanding dues, but all but about \$300 of that has since been received.

## DIRECTORS

Vastell Williams  
256-886-1344

[VHV.Williams@yahoo.com](mailto:VHV.Williams@yahoo.com)

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](mailto:clyde.nevins@Juno.com)

Mailing Address:  
Huntsville Optimist Club  
P.O. Box 2230  
Huntsville, AL 35804

## Old Business



President George asked for **critiques on Terranova's** and **Beauregard's** as the Club's regular meeting place, and whether either of them was a better meeting place for the Club.

He first asked comments on the food. Jesse, Buddy and Clyde stated that the variety of food available at Mullins was a big point in its favor. Richie said the Mullins was "awful," and he didn't care for Italian food.

Next there was some discussion on the service. Both Terranova's and Beauregard's were criticized for being slow, but this could likely be corrected if the Club met there regularly.

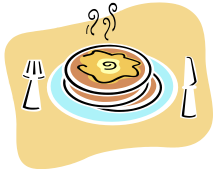
From the speaker's standpoint, President George said it was a "nightmare" for the speaker at Terranova's, and Beauregard's was just as bad. This was largely due to the speaker's location immediately in front of the louvered doors into the kitchen (at Beauregard's).

Two or three other potential locations are still on the table (so to speak). The three are: Trinity Methodist Church on Airport Rd., Rosie's on South Parkway, and the Blue Plate Café which is in the process of adding its second location in the old Victoria's Café, also on South Parkway.

Al Renz reported that there is a significant difference in the cost of meals at the three restaurants. The average meal cost at Mullins is less than \$10, while the average was \$14.40 at Terranova's and \$13.54 at Beauregard's.

**Motion:** Duane Plank moved that the Club stay at Mullins but continue to look for a more suitable location. Alberto seconded the motion, and it passed by voice vote with only one "nay."

## Committee Reports



Alberto reported that the way is now clear for us to hold a **pancake breakfast** for the Hawthorne Conservatory. The Conservatory has a new director, Ms. Tiffany Martin, and the trouble between the Conservatory and the Central Presbyterian Church has been resolved. He proposed a date in October, pending the availability of the Cooper House for the breakfast.



Alberto reported that he has set the date and place for the **Oratorical Contest**. It will be held in the Cooper House on the morning of March 7, 2015. This is the only date open at the Cooper House in the needed time frame. The topic for this year's contest is "How my optimism will help me to press on to the greater achievements in the Future (sounds familiar)." He also stated he will propose to the Club's Board of Directors that the prize money for contestants be raised to \$500 (1<sup>st</sup>), \$300 (2<sup>nd</sup>) and \$200 (3<sup>rd</sup>). He said the effort in preparing, memorizing and delivering the speech up to 4 times is worthy of a greater prize money than that it now shares with the Essay Contest (\$300, \$200 & \$100, respectively).



**Foundation Board** President Tom Casteel reported that at the end of June, the Foundation's value was \$907,548.62. The payout to the Club for its youth projects and programs is around 4% per year. There was some discussion on whether the Club should fund a significant (say, in the range of hundred thousand dollars or more) youth program. Buddy Beck expressed his opinion that the Club should be giving more grants to worthwhile non-profits in our area.

## Announcements



Gay Pepper announced that the Club's **Installation Banquet** will be held on the last Thursday of September (25<sup>th</sup>), and that it will be held at the Optimist Recreation Center. The meal will be catered for the event. She hinted that incoming President Al Adams might have a say-so in the menu for the dinner. Our Optimist District Governor, Lenor Cox, will do the installing.



**Monthly Program Chairmen** are needed for next year (starting in October). President George passed around a sign-up sheet. If you have a favorite month, sign up for it now. Program Chairpersons are also responsible for providing the lunch at our business meetings in the ORC.

## Closing

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

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud.**

*~Maya Angelou*

- PHOTOS -



**Look at All the Blue Shirts**



**Enjoying Duane's Meal**



**Diggin' In**

# Calendar

- 8/28 Thursday 11:45 am Mullins Restaurant  
**Blake Dorning – Madison County Sherriff**
- 9/2 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank  
**Board Meeting**
- 9/4 Thursday 11:45 am Mullins Restaurant  
**TBD – Bill Peters**
- 9/11 Thursday 11:45 am Mullins Restaurant  
**TBD – Bill Peters**
- 9/18 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food – (Bill Peters)**
- 9/25 Thursday **6:30 pm** Optimist Recreation Center  
**Officer Installation Banquet**

## 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:**