



**OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL**

Friend of Youth

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Club meets

1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

**Mullins Restaurant
Huntsville, AL**

**Our business meeting
is held on the 3rd
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. A slim turnout of 15 Optimists attended the meeting. At our normal 11:45 starting time the food hadn't arrived, so after 10 more minutes of waiting President George McDonough announced we would start the business portion of the meeting and hope for the best.

He asked Rev. Jim Berry to give the opening prayer, and President Elect Al Adams to lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

About completing the business session we did finally get to eat, and it was worth waiting for. Bill Peters brought the food, and we enjoyed delicious barbequed rib sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans and coleslaw from Smokey's Barbecue on Hwy 72. The meals were supposed to have been delivered, but the delivery person was sick and Bill had to make a trip to Smokey's to get them.

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 11 months ending on August 31, 2014.

Al covered these highlights from the report:

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❖ The Band Instrument Program had exceptionally high expenses this year when our instrument repair & maintenance contract with Robbins had to be cancelled due to their lack of effort.

❖ The Club received Jeff Klimek's 5th monthly payment in the amount of \$170. So far, Jeff has repaid \$625. He still owes the Club \$65,070.13.

❖ The Bank Balance at the end of August was \$6,299.20.

❖ At the end of August, there was \$450 in outstanding dues, but all but \$65 of that has since been received.

❖ At the end of September there will be a little over \$9,000 remaining in the budgeted amount for Youth Activities and Community Service. It is planned to allocate this money as follows: \$5,000 to Heals, Inc., and \$1,000 each to four of the non-profits who apply for grants.

❖ Al is projecting that there will be a net for the Club of \$4,000 at the end of the year (Sept. 30).

Al also distributed the proposed a **tentative budget for next year**. The budget is tentative because Al has not received the Band Committees input on the amount needed for maintenance and repair of our band instruments for the next year. It is likely that this will be a good bit less than this year's amount because many of this year's high-cost repairs will not be needed again next year. There is a possibility that the Club could contract with Southeastern Musical Services, similar to what we had with Robbins.

The budget will be presented to the new Board of Directors at their initial meeting in October. The budget approved from that session will be presented to the membership and then to the Foundation before becoming final.

The proposed budget includes an income from a fund raiser of \$1,500. One project that is under consideration is the selling of bagged and shelled pecans. This could be an easy sell in the pre-holiday season.

In answer to a question by John Shirey, it was stated that the income from the fund-raising project would not be ear-marked but would go into the Club's general fund.

Vastell Williams asked about the much higher amount (\$2,000) budgeted for the Oratorical Contest. Alberto Duarte has proposed a large increase in the cash awards for the winners: to \$500 (1st), \$300 (2nd) and \$200 (3rd). President George said that the Board of Directors currently considers the reasons not to do it outweigh the reasons to make the increase. They will discuss it further.

Old Business



Buddy Beck said he had stopped by 88 Buffet on University Dr. to check out the room and meal cost for meeting there. He said the meeting room was very nice, and he was given the cost of the meals as follows:

-  Buffet and drink (other than water): \$12
-  Buffet with water: \$9.50
-  No cost for the room

Buddy said the only possible drawback, other than contending with the University Dr. traffic, was the parking situation there. Since our Club meeting time is a little earlier than the lunch rush hour, parking might not be so bad. Richie Myers said another drawback was that he would eat too much.

There were some favorable comments about trying the 88 Buffet for a meeting in the future, but no action was taken.

Committee Reports



Alberto Duarte wasn't at our meeting today to discuss the **Pancake Breakfast**, but President George reported that the Club had received a counter proposal from the Hawthorne Conservatory to have an evening affair, perhaps a supper, with the students of the conservatory providing dinner music. This would replace our traditional pancake breakfast, and would allow the Hawthorne students to be involved. There was no discussion on the proposal.

Announcements



President George said that everything was pretty well in place for the “change of watch” next week. Gay has a caterer lined up. George said that there will likely be some help needed to set up the room at the ORC for the **Installation Banquet** next Thursday evening. Call Gay if you can volunteer to help arrange the tables and chairs.



President George said he had personally delivered the school supplies donated by the Club to **Morris Elementary School**. He said the supplies were much appreciated. They took the supplies he brought directly to the class rooms that needed them. George said that “they didn’t even get cold” before being used. He said we really need to continue to help them.

Buddy Beck reported his daughter is a member of a jazz/big-band playing band who love to play and don’t charge for playing at events. He said they could be part of a fund-raiser program, such as a dance.

Closing

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

Clyde Nevins

Calendar

9/25 Thursday **6:30 pm** Optimist Recreation Center

Officer Installation Banquet

10/2 Thursday 11:45 am Mullins Restaurant

TBD – George McDonough

10/7 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

Board Meeting – 2014-15 Board

Optimistic Quote of the Week

I'd rather see a sermon
than hear one any day;
I'd rather one should walk with me
than merely tell the way.

The eye's a better pupil and
more willing than the ear,
Fine counsel is confusing,
but example's always clear;

And the best of all the preachers
are the men who live their creeds,
For to see good put in action
is what everybody needs.

~ [Edgar Guest](#)

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: