



PRESIDENT

Alfred G. Adams

502-541-6469

alfredg.adams@gmail.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT

John Inman

256-518-9490

inman_john@hotmail.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Vastell Williams

256-886-1344

VHV.Williams@yahoo.com

SECRETARY TREASURER

Al Renz

256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

Club meets

1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

**Check Website for
location**

hsvoptimists.org

Opti - Topics

Today's Meeting Mullins Restaurant

Another slim turnout of only 13 Optimists showed up for our meeting today, but we were happy to see Sidney Sandridge as one of them. Also, our newest member, Ora Wade, attended.

The menu at Mullins was little changed. The lunch plate with one meat and 3 veggies was available as before, and a salad bar had been added for those who cared to eat off the menu and add a salad. Meat selection today was between Salisbury steak and baked chicken (leg and thigh). We had different servers than before, and they were friendly and attentive.

Opening

President Al Adams was back with us, today, and he opened the meeting by saying he wished our lack of attendance today was due to many of our Club members attending the OI Convention in New Orleans this week. He reported that next year's OI Convention will be in Quebec, Canada, and said it would be great to take a busload of our Club members to it.

President Al called on Alberto Duarte to bring the opening prayer, and then led the Club in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. (Mullins now has a painting of an American flag on one of the walls.)

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

DIRECTORS

2 YEAR

Tom Casteel

256-882-9380

tom@leetsac.net

Richie Myers

256-658-6343

vall1jean@yahoo.com

1 YEAR

Andrew Driver

256-374-7934

dsalesdriver@gmail.com

Bob Martin

256-722-8062

bmartin12@bellsouth.net

Gay Pepper

256-288-4321

gaypepper@fcb-hsv.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Clyde Nevins

256-881-8215

clyde.nevins@Juno.com

New Member Installation

President Al asked **our newest member, Ora Wade**, to come forward to be installed as a member of our Club. Ora is the President of Wade's Career Development, a non-profit organization that provides business advice and training to students and low-income adults. Ora said her organization is dedicated to helping students take their role as active citizens in our community. Ms. Wade said she is anxious to meet all the other members of our Club and join us in helping kids. (See photo section at the end)

Announcements

Next Week is the third Thursday of the month, so it will be a **business meeting at the Optimist Recreational Center.**

Tom Casteel said he had received lists of **invitees to our NOW Banquet** next month from only 6 members. Please e-mail any names for potential members to Tom.

Richie Myers announced that his son and one of his friends have agreed to provide music for our NOW Banquet. Richie said he would select the six songs to be played.

Program

This month's Program Chairman, Jim Roe, introduced our two speakers from **Athens State University** today. First up was **Guy McClure**, Director of Marketing, Public Relations and Publications at Athens State.

Mr. McClure began by saying he is a native of Huntsville. He said he remembered when Mullins restaurant was a drive-in across the street when he was a boy. His father was an Optimist in the Athens Club. He asked how many of those present had been to the Athens State campus outside of attending the Fiddlers Contest that is held each October to raise money for scholarships (I saw very few hands).

Mr. McClure presented some interesting facts about Athens State. It was founded in 1822, and is the oldest university of higher learning in the state of Alabama. The university has held non-stop classes since then, including through the Civil War. It has an enrollment of a little over 3,000 students, of which the majority are working and/or are married. It claims to provide the best education at the lowest cost per hour in the state.

One unique fact is that Athens State University is one of only five universities in the world that have *only* junior and senior students. In fact, there is no name for such a university (they tried “junior college,” but that didn’t work). He’s trying to come up with a term.

Recently, Athens State has begun two new programs. The first is an undergraduate degree in Information Technology Assurance. This degree will equip students to combat hackers. The second new program is a graduate level program in Global Logistics and Resupply. It will be the first graduate level program at Athens State. Another graduate level program approved, but not yet implemented, will be in Religion and Ethics.

He invited any or all of our Club to come to the university and take a tour of the campus.

Our next speaker from Athens State University was Ms. **Kim Bell**. She is the Interim Director of the Athens State Center for Lifelong Learning, and a Professor of Business Statistics at the university. Ms. Bell said she, too, has had ties to Optimist Clubs. She reported that in 1989 she was named the Optimist Club Teenager of the Year.

Ms. Bell told us about a special part of Athens State University, the Lifelong Learning department, now in its fifth year at the university. This department is designed to fill a variety of needs for both adults and younger students. Most of the classes are not-for-credit, although the department does teach several certification classes for professional development.

There are the typical classes for adult interests like cake decoration and flower arrangement, but the most popular classes are in leisure travel. They have led overseas trips to Greece and Israel and to domestic destinations like Yellowstone National Park and the Tennessee Aquarium. One future trip she is looking forward to is to Music City Ranch in Montana. The Lifelong Learning classes for young people include music lessons in cello, violin, piano, guitar and song writing.

The university is open to suggestion for new classes to become part of the Lifelong Learning department. Any subject that aims for the general good and offers personal improvement could be included.

Question and Answer Session

Q. Jim Roe asked if the university offered off-campus classes.

A. Yes, both on-line classes and face-to-face classes to groups are available.

Q. Alberto Duarte asked if classes were available for all ages.

A. Yes (see above)

Q. Alberto Duarte asked if there needed to be ties to the school to take the Lifelong Learning classes.

A. No, the classes were open to anyone.

Q. Alberto Duarte asked what the duration of classes was.

A. Some were as little as half a day; some as long as 6 months. The length of instruction depends on the subject matter.

Q. Alberto Duarte asked if there were any language classes included in the Lifelong Learning program.

A. Thus far, only one, a Conversational Spanish class, has been offered. However, the University's Interim, President, Dr. Engle, has asked Ms. Bell to put on a multicultural event by May of 2016.

Closing

President Al gave a tile with the Optimist Creed on them to each of our speakers. Since both had Optimist ties, he said "You should know it." Ms. Bell drew a name for our attendance prize, and the first name drawn was **Dr. Sidney Sandridge**. President Al remarked that "This has got to be a setup."

Dr. Carl Winkler led us in the reciting the Optimist Creed.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Never fear shadows. They simply mean there's a light shining somewhere nearby.”

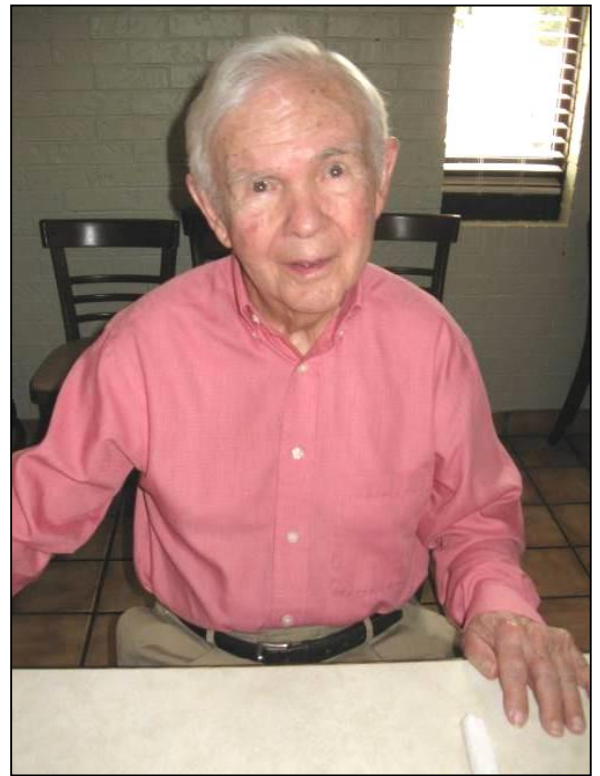
~Ruth E Renkel



Our Speakers: Gary McClure and Kim Bell



Ms. Ora Wade, our newest member



Dr. Sidney Sandridge.



President Al installs Ms. Ora Wade

CALENDAR

- 7/14 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 7/16 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Jim Roe)
- 7/23 Thursday 11:45 am Mullin’s Restaurant
TBD – Jim Roe
- 7/30 Thursday
NO MEETING - 5th Thursday
- 8/2 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 8/6 Thursday 6:00 pm Optimist Recreation Center
NOW Banquet
- 8/13 Thursday 11:45 am Mullin’s Restaurant
**Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr.
President, Alabama A&M University**
- 8/20 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Tom Casteel)
- 8/27 Thursday 11:45 am Mullin’s Restaurant
Libby Parker – HOPE Leadership Academy
- 9/1 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting

Sponsor Guest List

Sponsor: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____

Guest Prospects:

1. Name: _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Brief Personal Introduction _____

Optional: E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

2. Name: _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Brief Personal Introduction _____

Optional: E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

3. Name: _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Brief Personal Introduction _____

Optional: E-Mail _____ Cell Phone _____

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
P, O, Box 2230
Huntsville, AL 35804-2230

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO: