



## **PRESIDENT**

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# Opti - Topics

## **October Business Meeting**



Twelve Optimists assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center for our regularly scheduled business meeting for the month. We had boxed lunches from KFC for our meal today, along with a home-made tossed salad and iced tea or lemonade to drink. We had two guests today, both potential members. Jim Berry's guest was Jack Burwell, an attorney with an office in Five Points, and Eureka Battie's guest was Danielle Hartung, a professional organizer and realtor, both guests are members-to-be. Also, new member candidates Iesha Watts and Keaires Roberson joined us today.

## **Opening**

President Eureka Battie welcomed everyone to the Club's monthly business meeting, and had our guests introduced. Rev. Jim Berry brought the opening prayer and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Optimist Family News**

Tom Casteel announced that President **Eureka Battie** has been selected as the Minority Business Owner of the Year for 2017 by the Alabama State Conference of the NAACP. Eureka will be honored at a banquet in Montgomery on October 21<sup>st</sup>. **Congratulations, Eureka!**

## **Announcements**



The pecans are in! They are stored in the Club's closet at the ORC.

**Club meets**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday**  
**At 6:00 p.m. at**  
**Huntsville Country**  
**Club**

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays**  
**At 11:45 a.m.**  
**Optimist Recreational**  
**Center**

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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Many members picked up their allotment at the meeting today, but there are still plenty to give out. Pecan Sale Chairman Alfred Adams has set a deadline of the November business meeting for you to pay for your pecans.



Tom Casteel will be attending the Alabama/Mississippi **District Meeting** in Daphne, AL, this weekend. He will represent our Club in the absence of President Eureka who had to cancel due to the banquet in her honor on Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>.



The ROC, the Clubs **JOI Club at Randolph High School** will be installing their officers on Friday, October 20, at 9:45 a. m. Alberto has arranged a cake and drinks for the occasion, but will miss it due to a scheduled colonoscopy. Clyde Nevins and Eureka Battie will handle the ceremony and refreshments for him.

**Treasurer's Report**



Treasurer Al Renz distributed his financial report for the Club's fiscal year ending September 30, 2017. Highlights from his report were:

- The revenue for the year was \$746.47 over the budgeted amount. Most of this was the result of George McDonough's leadership in increasing revenue from last year's Pecan Sale.
- Expenses for the year were \$3,419.79 below budget. Much of this was due to having fewer members' meals paid through the Club's books. The budgeted amount for District Meeting travel expenses was also less due to President Vastell not being able to attend all the meetings.

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- Expenditures for Youth Activities and Community Service were \$1,182.37 below budget, mostly due to not hosting the Youth Appreciation Banquet.

The Club's bank balance at the end of our fiscal year was \$14,221, which compares to \$10,476 at the beginning of the year.

Al also reported that the Club did not receive the \$150 due from Jeff Klimek in October. The matter has been turned over to our attorney who has brought results when this happened earlier.

## Committee Reports



Clyde Nevins reported for Alberto Duarte on current **JOI Club Committee** activities. Alberto has received a lot of interest in re-establishing a JOI Club at Whitesburg School. Alberto will be meeting with the Assistant Principal and three teachers on Tuesday, October 24, at 4:00 p. m. He would like as many "warm bodies" there as possible to show the school our interest.

## Old Business



Bill Clarke spoke up about the poor quality of the meal we had at the Huntsville Country Club for our evening meeting this month. He said food was canned and tasteless, and the turkey, if that's what it was, tasted like ham. Other members concurred. Bill said he would much prefer to go back to the Blue Plate Café where the food was cheaper, tasted better, and offered options. President Eureka said she had received several similar complaints and will be addressing the problem with the Huntsville Country Club.



The **Youth Appreciation Banquet**, which had been postponed from September to November, **has now been cancelled**. One of the main problems was obtaining contact information of the CAFY award winners from the City for the event. President Eureka said that she thinks there would be no problem getting the information directly from the parents during the presentation at the monthly City Council meeting where the award is presented.

## New Business



President Eureka asked the Club their preference on whether to participate in the **Veterans' Day Parade** on Saturday, Nov. 11. Kathy Anderson, who usually chairs this project will be out of the Country. Consequently both she and her convertible will not be available. It was also reported that the pole which supports the Optimist banner that leads our entry needs repair. After some discussion, Bob Hirschbuehler, Danielle Hartung and Eureka Battie volunteered to be in the parade, providing a suitable convertible can be found to ride in.



Gay Pepper, who chairs our annual **Christmas Party**, said she recommends holding the party at the Huntsville Country Club, replacing our evening meeting there on December 7th. She would appreciate your input on what you'd like to do at the party (other than eat). Dirty Santa and carol singing are traditional, but call or e-mail her if you have some other ideas.

## Huntsville Optimist Foundation Report



**Foundation President** Alberto Duarte reported in absentia on the assets of the Foundation as of October 19, 2017. Assets managed by Regions are now valued at \$914,091. Assets managed by Synovus are valued at \$165,379. This sum of these, \$1,079,379, is more than \$16,000 greater than reported at the September business meeting.

## Zone Update



**President Eureka** reported she has attended a Club meeting of all the Optimist Clubs in our Zone since becoming President. She said the Huntsville clubs, in particular, take their cue from our Club, to the extent that they often initiate projects that mirror our projects and compete with them. Club Director Matt Clarke is pulling together a Zone-wide listing of projects conducted by the city's Optimist Clubs at the City and County schools. This will hopefully lead to cooperation instead of competition.

## Closing

President Eureka led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting. Pecans were given out following the Creed.

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**“Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely.”**

*~ Roy T. Bennett*

## CALENDAR

- 10/26 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Eureka Battie - TBD**
- 11/2 Thursday 6:00 pm Huntsville Country Club  
**Alberto Duarte- TBD**
- 11/7 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.  
**Board Meeting**
- 11/16 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food – (Alberto Duarte)**
- 11/24 Thursday **NO MEETING**
- THANKSGIVING**
- 12/7 Thursday 6:00 pm Huntsville Country Club  
**Annual Christmas Party**



**Website: [hsvoptimists.org](http://hsvoptimists.org)**

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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**TO:**