



## **PRESIDENT**

**Eureka Thompson**

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## **1st VICE PRESIDENT**

**Vacant**

## **2nd VICE PRESIDENT**

**Kathy Anderson**

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## **SECRETARY TREASURER**

**Al Renz**

256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**Vastell Williams**

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**Website:**

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

# Opti - Topics

**Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville**

**Volume 72, Number 19 - July 26, 2018**

## **July Business Meeting**



A great turnout of 16 Optimists and one guest assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center today for the Club's July Business Meeting. President Eureka was absent due to a business conference.

Vastell Williams was our caterer, we had beef and mushroom stroganoff, as well spicy Italian pasta. With salad and multiple choices of dressings. Prepared by Nothing but Noodles. Dessert was miniature pound cakes, and we had unsweet tea and sweet tea to choose from.

## **Opening**

In the absence of President Eureka Thompson, Tom Casteel presided at today's meeting. Tom opened the meeting by asking Al Adams to bring the opening prayer, and Tom Casteel led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Our guest today was **Michael Abernathy** from Growing Minds.

## **Optimist Family News**

Al Renz and Tom Casteel went over information for new Optimist club in Sheffield Al, with Michael Abernathy.

The club elected Club Officers at the meeting. Our 2018-19 officers are President: Eureka Thompson; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice - President Joseph Lee; Directors: are Tom Casteel, Gay Pepper, and Keaires Roberson. The term for the directors is 2 years. Al Adams, Matt Clark, and Bob Hirschbuehler will serve their second year.

**Club meets  
2nd Thursday  
At 6:00 p.m. at  
Huntsville Country  
Club**

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

**DIRECTORS  
2 YEARS**

**Alfred G. Adams**  
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**Matt Clarke**  
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**Bob Hirschbuehler**  
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**1 YEAR**

**Tom Casteel**  
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**Richie Myers**  
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**Gay Pepper**  
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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

**Keaires Roberson**  
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The **2019 International Convention**- will be held in Louisville Kentucky. Optimist International will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Plan on attending, it would be a great vacation. The dates are June 30<sup>th</sup>-July 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the Galt House hotel.

The next district meeting is Aug 24-26 Montgomery Al

**Treasurer's Report**



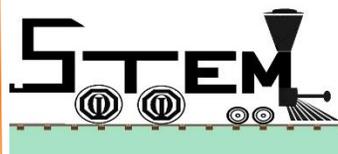
Treasurer **Al Renz** gave his 9-month 2017-2018 Treasurer's Report for the period. He reported that the beginning balance was \$10,742.28 on 10/1/2017. Bank balance at the end of the month, 14,082.39. Youth Activity and Community Service Expenditures totaled \$26,250.00 for the six-month period.

The Club's bank balance at the end of July was \$2,553.64. With receivables from the Huntsville Optimist Foundation, and with the payment outstanding meal charges, the Club had a potential cash position of \$15,764.69 at the end of the 7 months.

**Committee Reports**



**Alberto Duarte** reported Alberto no update on Joi club, AL Adams mentioned to encourage the Joi clubs to participate in the Joi club conventions in March. They will be held in Madison. The club needs to push the Joi clubs to participate. We have more Joi clubs than anybody else in the district. Which means we should have more participating.



**Vastell Williams** reported that there was no update now.

## Huntsville Optimist Foundation Report



Foundation President **Alberto Duarte** gave a report on the Foundation's investments as of the close of the market's close on July 26, 2018. The Foundations account at Regions is now worth \$912,911, and the account at Synovus is worth \$172,116. This is up from last month. Alberto stated that the foundation will meet when it is necessary. Gay pepper has offered the conference room in her bank. Will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday when meetings are held. Anyone who wants to participate is welcomed 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial Bank Synovus Bank on Whitesburg.

## Old Business and more Family news



End of year reports from committee chairs are due to Eureka by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Visit to Gurley-** There used to be an Optimist club in Gurley. Tom Casteel and Tom Howell from the Huntsville Evening club will be staffing a table at the Back to School Extravaganza at the Madison County K-8 school in Gurley to try to boost interest in starting a new club there.

Gay Pepper- discussed the **Synovus Annual Bingo Night**. 100% of proceeds go to United Way of Madison County. Admission is \$25.00 (Includes one card, food, and beverages. When: **Tuesday August 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm**. Location: 4650 Whitesburg Dr. Huntsville, Al 35802. Please go out and support.

Vastell asked about the picnic, as well as school supplies for school. Tom stated did not have information about picnic. Normally it is held in September and it will be discussed at the August 7 Board Meeting. In the past we collected school supplies for Morris Elementary School, however that need is now being supported by the Huntsville City School System. There are numerous groups collecting school supplies, some major operations. Tom stated that if someone knows of a need that isn't being met to let the Board know.

**Band Program-** Tom Casteel and Al Adams process 57 instruments on Tuesday and Tom processed 45 more on Wednesday from Southeastern to the storage facility. There are a few instruments left at Southeastern. The band program is going to be over budget. We need 10 cases for the instruments at \$825 and we need \$325 for more reeds, saxophone straps, and mouthpieces, a total of \$1200.

The club voted to ask the Foundation for an additional \$1200 to cover these expenses.

## Fun Day

This Sunday 07/29/2018 from 4:00-8:00pm. A few of the Optimist member will be set up with a table at Fun Day. We are one of the sponsors for this fun filled event. If you are available to attend please do so. Here is the address 1401 E Avalon Ave, Tuscumbia Al 35674. Let's show them what the Optimist Club is made of!



### **The Bouncy House Our Club Sponsored**

#### **Closing**

Tom Casteel asked Bob Hirschbuehler to lead the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Keaires Roberson*

### **Optimistic Quote of the Week**

**“If you never start you never finish.” ~ Keaires Roberson**

## CALENDAR

August 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.

**Board Meeting**

August 9<sup>th</sup> Thursday **6:00 pm** Huntsville Country Club

**Evening Meeting**

August 23<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

**Business Meeting - Food – (Annie Sandusky)**

## Photos



**Tom convention badge with the ribbons showing the position he has held and his support of the Optimist International Foundation.**



**Huntsville Optimist Club**  
P.O. Box 2230  
Huntsville, AL 35801-2230



**TO:**

### **THE OPTIMIST CREED**

**P**romise 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