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Opti - Topics

Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville
Volume 73, Number 7 – February 14, 2019

February Evening Meeting



Sixteen Optimists and three guests assembled at Blue Plate Café for our evening meeting. Vice President Joseph Lee called our meeting to order in the absence of President Eureka Thompson. He called on Clyde Nevins to bless the food and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening

Vice President Joseph Lee welcomed everyone to the Club's February evening meeting he then asked for guest introductions, which were:

- **John Craig**, guest of Richie Myers.
- **Willie Diggs**, Director of Field of Education, at Alabama A&M University and the founder of Come Thirsty Ministries, Inc
- **Marlene Renz**, wife of Al Renz.

Announcements

Keaires Roberson and her family have experienced another tragic death in their family on Tuesday night. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Guest Speaker-

Richie Myers introduced our guest speaker **Mike Murdoch**

Mike is the President and Founder of Huntsville STEAM Works, an Alabama nonprofit focused on education through Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics.

**Club meets
2nd Thursday
At 6:00 p.m. at
Blue Plate Cafe**

**4th Thursdays
At 11:45 a.m.
Optimist Recreational
Center**

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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They support a community makerspace located within Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment Center, and provide support services and programs to schools, students, teachers, and community members throughout North Alabama.

Steam Works provide a variety of camps for kids from kindergarten to High School. They cover a wide range of subjects, computer programming, Advanced Manufacturing Technology, ecosystems, etc. The kids get excited by doing.

There are several shops available for use by members.

The Advanced Manufacturing Technology Shop is equipped with the most popular makerspace equipment. CNC machines, laser cutter, and 3-D printers.

There is a woodworking shop, a metalworking shop, and a design studio for computer programming.

Check Presentation

Vice President Joseph presented a check for \$250 to fund a field trip to The Legacy Museum in Montgomery, AL for the young men in his Come Thirsty Ministries program.

Other Business



Our Club **Oratorical Contest** will be held on March 16th at 9:00am at the Cooper House. Please spread the word to any young people and youth groups with whom you have contact. For more information visit our website at <http://www.hsvoptimists.org/OratoricalContest.htm> or contact Alberto Duarte.



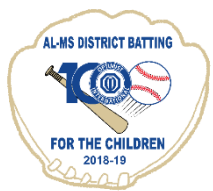
The **Pancake Breakfast** was a great success this year due to the participation of the members from Central Presbyterian Church. We made over \$3000.



The annual **Kite Festival** will be held on March 2nd 11am-3pm, John Hunt Park. We will have a booth passing out brochures about our club to the adults and balsa wood glider airplanes to the children. If you would like to participate by spending an hour at our booth or would like more information, contact Al Adams or Tom Casteel.



Dime A Day. The Dime A Day program supports the scholarships for the Essay and Oratorical contests. For your support you will receive this handsome pin. Our club's goal is 100% participation. We are committed to twelve members participating, and Tom Casteel has four pins remaining. Please give Tom Casteel, our Optimist Foundation Rep, a check for \$36.50 and support this effort.



The District Conference will be held in Panama City, FL. The Optimist International President, Rebecca Butler Mona and the Optimist International President Elect, Adrian M. Elcock will be there in addition to many other Optimist International leaders and trainers.



We are continuing our **Home Sweet Dorm** project through February. Ten of our Senior Pearls will soon be going off to college. The project provides each Pearl items needed to make things a little easier and get them excited and motivated about their college future. For a list of items needed go to http://www.hsvoptimists.org/Newsletters/Volume_73/OPTI-Topics_Vol_73-05.pdf

Tom Casteel read the obituary for Mr. Edward B. Sanderson of Muncie, IN who passed away at the age of 88. His wife and member of his bridge group sent a donation to the club in his memory. In 1948 he was given a baseball scholarship by the Optimist Club of Huntsville to Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University) where he graduated with two degrees. In lieu of flowers he requested donations be made to our club.

Closing

Alfred Adams led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Tom Casteel

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“It is easier to build strong children, than it is to repair broken men.”

~ Frederick Douglass



Vice President Joseph Lee Presents Willie Diggs a Check for \$250

CALENDAR

February 28th Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting (Richie Myers)

March 5th Tuesday **4:00 pm** 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting

March 14th Thursday **6:00 pm** **Blue Plate Café, South Parkway**
February Evening Meeting

March 16th Saturday **9:00 am** Optimist Recreation Center
TRI-STAR BASKETBALL

March 28th Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting (Gay Pepper)



Huntsville Optimist Club
P.O. Box 2230
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TO:

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