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Opti - Topics

**Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville
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January Evening Meeting

Fourteen Optimists and our speaker assembled at the Blue Plate Cafe for our first meeting of the new year. Since President Joseph Lee was out of town, 1st Vice President Demetria Braudaway called our meeting to order. She then asked Jin Roe to give the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening



While we waited for our meals Vice President Demetria asked Tom Rumph to introduce our speaker for the evening, Marie Bostick, Executive Director for the North Alabama Land Trust. Marie grew up in Huntsville,

spent most of her youth on Green Mountain. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree with a double major in Geography and Sociology from the Old Dominion University and a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Alabama A & M University.

After college she served under four Huntsville mayors as the Manager of Planning Administration. In 2014 she became the Executive Director of the Land Trust for North Alabama, a position she has held to the present time.

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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Alabama's first land trust started in 1987 with 540 acres of land. Today they manage over 7000 acres.

Land Trust of North Alabama is a member-supported non-profit working to preserve and provide stewardship for green space in North Alabama, including freshwater resources, land, and wildlife habitat. Through conservation and education, they improve the quality of life in our community.

The Land Trust offers award-winning environmental education activities, opportunities for research and environmental studies, areas for exercise and reflection, and preserves land that carries historic significance and protects endangered species.

With seven nature preserves offering over 70 miles of free public trails, there are plenty of opportunities to explore the outdoors and enjoy the benefits of nature. Trail maps are available at landtrustnal.org/explore

Announcements



The Zone 3 quarterly meeting will be held on January 16, 2020 at 11:45 a.m. at the Optimist Recreation Center. Please plan to attend as we will be discussing Club responsibilities for the District Conference in Guntersville, AL on January 24-26. At the last Zone meeting our club took home the Attendance Trophy, we would like to keep it.

Eureka announced we are out of pecans; however, we do have some mixed nuts and pistachio nuts available. Tom Casteel remarked that the pistachio nuts are delicious, and they are only \$10 for a one-pound bag.

District Conference



Our next District Conference will be held January 24-26, 2020, at the beautiful Lake Guntersville State Park Lodge, 1155 Lodge Drive, Guntersville, AL, 35976. A registration form is attached to the newsletter. If you plan to stay at the hotel, the deadline for reservations has passed, however Demetria said that she made reservations pass the deadline at the reserved price. Reservations can be made by calling the Lodge at 256-505-6621.

A committee has been assigned to investigate a new location. Tom Casteel reported that a nice location is being considered, however it is only available at lunchtime. He will be sending out a survey to determine if the club would like to revert to meeting at noontime only.

Eureka announced that there will be a meeting with the basketball coaches to schedule the Tri-Star Basketball contest.

Closing

Vice President Demetria had Marie draw for the attendance prize. She drew Joseph Lee first, then Alberto Duarte second and then Gay Pepper as the winner. Demetria led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Tom Casteel

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“The essence of optimism is that it takes no account of the present, but it is a source of inspiration, of vitality and hope where others have resigned; it enables a man to hold his head high, to claim the future for himself and not to abandon it to his enemy.”

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer”

2020 CALENDAR

- January 14th Tuesday **4:00 pm** Synovus Bank – 4650 Whitesburg DR
Board Meeting
- January 23rd Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting (Tom Rumph)
- January 24th 26th Friday – Sunday Guntersville State Park Lodge
District Conference
- February 1st **Deadline for Essay Contest submittals**
- February 4th Tuesday **4:00 pm** Synovus Bank – 4650 Whitesburg DR
Board Meeting
- February 22nd Saturday **7:00 am – 11:00 am** Cooper House – 405 Randolph Ave
Pancake Breakfast
- March 7th Saturday **11:00 am – 3:00 pm** John Hunt Park Festival Grounds
Annual Community Kite Festival
- March 7th Saturday **9:00 am** Location TBA
Oratorical Contest



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

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

