



## **PRESIDENT**

**Joseph Lee**

256-653-6542

josephadamlee@gmail.com

## **1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**Demetria Braudaway**

256-394-0267

dybraudaway@gmail.com

## **2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**Mattie Henderson**

256-655-2880

mattieh@comcast.net

## **SECRETARY TREASURER**

**Al Renz**

256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

## **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**Eureka Thompson**

256-653-0457

Eureka@Takerstransportation.com

**Website:**

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

# Opti - Topics

**Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville  
Volume 74, Number 5 – January 23, 2020**

## **January Business Meeting**

Twelve Optimists and two guests assembled at the Blue Plate Cafe for our first meeting of the new year. President Joseph Lee called our meeting to order. He then asked Alberto Duarte to give the invocation and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Opening**

President Lee then introduced our guests; Rose Barley, guest of Tom Casteel and Jim King, Guest of Alberto Duarte. Jim King became our newest member at this meeting. Welcome Jim, we look forward to serving the youth with you.

### **Lunch**

Vastell Williams provided lunch today. We had a delicious assortment of food today from “Nothing but Noodles.” There was Spicy Japanese Noodles and Southwest Chipotle pasta with toppings of beef, chicken, shrimp, and grated Parmesan cheese. There was also a green salad with several choices of salad dressings, a variety of sliced pound cakes and iced tea to drink. Well done Vastell.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Al Renz presented the Treasurer’s report. We ended the month with a bank balance of \$16,620.63.

## Club meets

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

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

## **DIRECTORS**

### **2 YEARS**

**Alfred G. Adams**  
502-541-6469  
alfredg.adams@gmail.com

**Matt Clarke**  
256-828-3652  
clarke.matthew.w@gmail.com

**Bob Hirschbuehler**  
256-880-3120  
cosveg0133@msn.com

### **1 YEAR**

**Tom Casteel**  
256-715-8772  
tom@leetsac.net

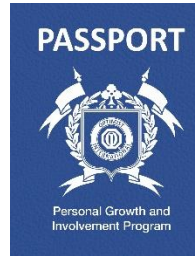
**Gay Pepper**  
256-288-4321  
gaypepper@synovus.com

**Keaires Roberson**  
256-658-9705  
robersonjainitta@aol.com

## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

**Tom Casteel**  
256-384-5820  
tom@leetsac.net

## Professional Growth and Involvement (PGI)



Al Renz presented a presentation on the Professional Growth and Involvement program. He told us that there are six elements for each level, they are; Attendance, Activities, Growth, Knowledge of the Organization, Personal Growth, and Communication. As each of the first nine levels are completed the member will receive a colored backing to place behind their membership pin indicating the completion of that level. Upon completion of level ten the member receives a special pin backing. Tom Casteel achieved level ten several years ago. We now have two more members that have achieved level ten and have had their paperwork submitted, that is Al Renz and Al Adams. Our President, Joseph Lee, has made the PGI Program a priority for the Club as an active PGI program will help our Club grow and serve more kids.

## **Tri-Star Basketball**

After a meeting with the City of Huntsville Recreation Officials, February 29 has been set for the Tri-Star Basketball event. The Gymnasium is reserved from 9 am to 11 am. Join us for a lot of fun with the kids.

## **Optimist Center Technology Improvements**

President Lee has met with the City of Huntsville Recreation Officials regarding improving the video media system in the meeting room. Since our club has replaced the ice maker in the kitchen, they are putting a priority on updating the equipment.

## **Fundraiser**

If you haven't turned in your pecan sales money please do so as soon as possible, we need to close out this project. We are out of pecans; however, we do have some mixed nuts and pistachio nuts available. and they are only \$10 for a one-pound bag.

## Zone Meeting

Once again, our Club brought home the Attendance Trophy for having the most members to attend the Zone meeting. Thanks to all the members participating.

## District Meeting



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.

## Meeting Location for Evening Meeting



A committee has been assigned to investigate a new location. Tom Casteel reported that the meeting room at Redstone Federal Credit Union's main headquarters on Wynn Drive is being considered, however it is only available at lunchtime. So far only 11 members have responded to the survey about meeting times. If you haven't responded, please fill out a quick survey form at <http://hsvoptimists.org/survey/contact.php> Your input is important.

## Kite Festival



The annual Kite Festival will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Our Club will have a table in the Jaycee Exhibit Hall. We will be giving out balsa wood flyers to the children and talking to attendees about the Club and its activities. Come by and help for an hour if you can. The oratorical contest is the same day, pick one event and enjoy. A media event is being planned for our Club to donate some kites to a children's organization before the Kite Festival.

## Band Program

Our club donated thirteen violins to the Hawthorne Conservatory. We had them stored for over a year and could not find a group to use them. The middle schools only use band instruments. Michelle Bauer called me and said that she had students that needed the violins. Hawthorne will issue and maintain them.

## Foundation Report

Alberto Duarte reported that the Huntsville Optimist Foundation balances were:  
Regions: \$916,316, SYNOVUS: \$195,116, Total: \$1,111,432

## Closing

President Lee had Rose Barley draw for the attendance prize. She drew Jim Roe, Tom Rumph, Becky Harris, Eureka Thompson, Keaires Roberson, Alberto Duarte, Anita Weathers, Iesha Moffett, Bob Martin, Autumn Robinson, Marie Buchanan, Debbie Hyder, and the winner was Mattie Henderson. I believe that thirteen draws is a record. President Lee led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Tom Casteel*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**Surround yourself with people who believe in your dreams, encourage your ideas, support your ambitions, and bring out the best in you."**

*~ Roy T. Bennett*

## 2020 CALENDAR

- January 24<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> Friday – Sunday Guntersville State Park Lodge  
**District Conference**
- February 1<sup>st</sup> **Deadline for Essay Contest submittals**
- February 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday **4:00 pm** Synovus Bank – 4650 Whitesburg DR  
**Board Meeting**
- February 22<sup>nd</sup> Saturday **7:00 am – 11:00 am** Cooper House – 405 Randolph Ave  
**Pancake Breakfast**
- February 29<sup>th</sup> Saturday **9:00 am – 11:00 am** Optimist Recreation Center  
**Tri-Star Basketball Contest**
- March 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday **11:00 am – 3:00 pm** John Hunt Park Festival Grounds  
**Annual Community Kite Festival**
- March 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday **9:00 am** Location TBA  
**Oratorical Contest**



**Optimist Club of Huntsville**  
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

