



# OPTI-TOPICS

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## Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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### OFFICERS 2009 - 2010

President.....Bob Martin  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.....Jim Roe  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.....Jim Pepper  
Secretary Treasurer.....Al Renz

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Casteel '10	Buddy Beck '11
Matt Hancock '10	Jim Berry '11
	Patti Walker '11

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After enjoying a tasty meal, preceded by Jim Berry's offering of thanks and leading us in the pledge of allegiance, Pres. Bob whacked the bell at approximately 12:15 to start business. Unfortunately we only had 15 in attendance. Remember we have to pay for at least 20 meals, so try to make it next time. We'll be meeting at the ORC, though, for our monthly business meeting. I'm told Duane is arranging for our June luncheon speakers, starting June 3. When I learn who will be at the rostrum I'll include them in our calendar.

Pres. Bob reminded us of the May 24 fundraiser for the playground. He, along with other distinguished celebrities, will be serving steaks and other food choices at Logan's Roadhouse on Balmoral Drive, looking for generous tips earmarked for playground coffers. Coverage of our recent YAW banquet, with pictures of honorees appeared in the Huntsville Times. This was passed around for member's review. Thanks, Clyde, for making this happen. Next, Bob recognized Patti for having a birthday, so we sang the usual rendition. Our speaker later commented he heard many good notes from the group.



Tom Casteel introduced Billy Orton, Director of the Huntsville Community Chorus. From Billy's description, the chorus is much better organized, and musically more ambitious than when I was a member in the 1950's under the direction of C. Hardenstine, M. Hamm, and K. Turvey. Back then Handel's Messiah was our

annual offering to the community at Christmas, augmented by various other oratorios and operettas. Of special interest to the Optimist Club, being "Friend of Youth," was the extensive youth choir programs the HCC sponsors. As an instrumentalist, Billy congratulated us for our personal involvement in the middle school band instrument program. He was reminded of a quote from Sir Winston Churchill – "Nature will not be admired by proxy." You have to be a participant to give it meaning. Some of the HCC stars of the past, namely Albert Lane and Kenneth Turvey, have been honored via annual scholarships by the HCC. Sidney Sandridge was not present to claim the attendance prize. Pres. Bob asked us to start thinking of our summer picnic.

#### CALENDAR

05/20	Thurs.11:45	ORC	Business Meeting (Food-Casteel)
05/27	Thurs.11:45	DHI	Joel Mason Mountain Gap Band Dir.
06/01	Tues. 4:00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Comm. Bank	Board of Directors Meeting
06/03	Thurs.11:45	DHI	TBA by Duane Plank

