



# 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

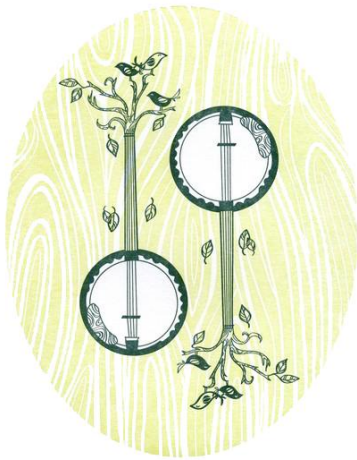
Tom Casteel '10	Buddy Beck '11
Matt Hancock '10	Jim Berry '11
	Patti Walker '11

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We had at least 25 attendees today. Guests included Marlene Renz, Nancy Martin, Darrel McCoglan's wife (Al & Marlene's daughter), and Betty Thompson. Also, Jim Reeves was Zack's guest. It was good to have these visitors. Pres. Bob called on Sidney for a prayer and to lead us in the pledge of allegiance. I understand that two of our new members, Tim Williams and Nancy Vaughn, belong to a recently-established category called, "Friend of Optimists." According to Pres.-Elect Jim Roe, "Friends" are charged an annual fee and pay for meals whenever they attend. Otherwise, they enjoy all the privileges of regular membership, including participating in special events and receiving our weekly newsletter that keeps them informed of upcoming programs and service opportunities. Jim Roe is program chairman for September. He has already arranged for a "timely" speaker for Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>. I say "timely" because the speaker will describe an educational program designed for "seniors" to continue attending regular college classes. Our membership is well qualified. Furthermore, Jim said that Pres. Bob has agreed to take the lead in organizing a new JOOI (Junior Optimist Octagon International) Club. He is looking for members wishing to assist him in this endeavor.

Pres. Bob announced the titles for next year's Oratorical and Essay contests. The former is, "If I Were Leader of the Free World, the First Issue I would Address would be..." and the latter is, "How My Education is the Key to a Successful Future.." To attract new interest, the District has upped the scholarship awards to \$2,500 for each. And, too, the upper age limit has been extended from 16 to 18 years of age, making high school participation more probable, along with the scholarships likely becoming of immediate use.



Zack introduced a country and bluegrass trio of Jerry, Earl and Patsy. They entertained us with story-telling vocals accompanied by outstanding stringed instrument playing. Many of the tunes were composed by individuals in the group, one seasonal recording regularly appearing in the top ten at Christmas for the past 30 years, achieving platinum status. The trio has broad experience, and proved to be a popular act for our members. The audience showed their strong appreciation by urging them on to additional numbers, finally getting into partisan politics, to the joy of many of the members. Zack won the attendance prize.

### **CALENDAR**

08/12	Thurs. 11:45	DHI	Grand Ole Opry Performance
08/19	Thurs. 11:45	ORC	Business Meeting
08/26	Thurs, 11:45	DHI	Peter Sathi World Traveler
08/20 thru 8-22 District Convention at Airport Sheraton Hotel			
	Friday 7pm	Fellowship Dinner	
	Saturday 7am	Training, 3pm Convention Session, 7pm Banquet	
	Sunday 7am	Jeremy & Justin Jordan Sing, 9:30 Board Meeting	
09/02	Thurs. 11:45	DHI	Sue Chatam – OSCHER
09/07	Tues. 4:00pm	1 <sup>st</sup> Comm. Bank	Board Meeting

