



Opti - Topics

Bulletin of the Optimist Club of Huntsville

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PAST PRESIDENT

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Eighteen Optimists assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center today for the **monthly business meeting**. Jim Roe provided today's lunch, barbecue turkey and pork sandwiches with traditional sides, drinks and cookies. President Tom has instituted a sign-in sheet for each meeting to keep a record of attendance.

Opening

President Tom asked Jim Berry to open the meeting with an invocation, and Clyde Nevins next led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tom announced that sign-up sheets were being passed around to sign up for three upcoming meetings that should substantially exceed our normal attendance: the Club's installation banquet on Thursday night, September 27 with AL-LA-MS District Governor Helen Howard performing the installation, regular meeting on October 4th with Brian Hicks, Alabama A&M Athletic Director as our speaker, and the regular meeting on October 11, when Dr. Casey Wardynski has been rescheduled to speak to the club. If you weren't at today's meeting and plan to attend (and bring one or more guests) either or both of these meetings, please let Tom know ASAP.

Tom complimented the Club on how well our members signed up for the various Club committees; however, few of those signed up to be committee chairmen. Tom surveyed membership on each committee and chairmen were determined for each committee without undue difficulty. **See the end of this newsletter for 2012-2013 committee assignments.**

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Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Al Renz distributed financial report sheets to attendees. First, Al reviewed the Oct. 1, 2011 through Aug. 31, 2012, expenses compared to the annual budget. Three more months are left on our fiscal year, but Al was able to characterize the major differences between this year's expenses and the budget:

- (1) We brought in fewer members than budgeted.
- (2) We didn't get the anticipated payments from Jeff Klimek. Jeff currently owes the Club \$65,799.87.
- (3) We formed only 2 JOOI Clubs instead of the 5 that were budgeted.
- (4) We were unable to repay the Foundation for money borrowed by the Club. We still owe the Foundation \$2,995.

Nearly all of the other budget items were estimated to finish very close to the budget by the time the fiscal year is completed.

The Foundation is up to date in reimbursing the club for Youth Activities and Community Service expenses. This totaled \$12,038.30 through August 31.

2012-2013 Budget

Next, Treasurer Al Renz presented the proposed budget for the Club for next year. This budget had been reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors. Highlights of the new budget:

- (1) The budget projects 8 new members.
- (2) The budget assumes no payments from Jeff Klimek.
- (3) The budgeted expense for band instrument maintenance and repair has been substantially reduced (see Committee Reports).
- (4) For now, the budget does not specify the number of JOOI Clubs to be formed. This will not affect the

bottom line, since all JOOI Club expenses are reimbursed by the Foundation.

(5) The budget has a repayment of \$1,200 to the Foundation.

(6) A fund-raising project to provide income of \$2,000. This will be necessary if we are to repay the Foundation.

Following Al's presentation, a motion to accept the budget as proposed was voted on and approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Fabiani Duarte reported on the **JOOI Club committee**. He announced that on October 11, Dr. Casey Wardynski will attend along with a Public Relations person from the Huntsville City Schools. Also, a Still Serving Veterans executive will attend. It is anticipated that at this meeting a public announcement of these organizations forming a partnership with the Optimist Club of Huntsville to place JOOI Clubs in 16 targeted schools over the coming months. The JOOI Clubs will be service oriented, sponsored by our Club, and mentored by a representative of Still Serving Veterans. Fabiani is inviting members of the local media (TV and newspapers) to attend so the community will be exposed to work to be done by this partnership.

At this time there are two new JOOI Clubs in the offing: Hampton Cove Elementary School and the Village of Promise School at University Place. The ROC, Randolph Schools JOOI Club, will be celebrating their 10th anniversary this year. Their intent is to put their full energy into mentoring the new Club at the Village of Promise School. A representative of the Village of Promise School will be our speaker at the October 25 meeting.

A round of applause was given to Gay Pepper for the wonderful job she did in pulling together our **Club picnic** at one of the Everybody Can Play Park's pavilions. Tom announced that he had taken photos at the picnic, and these can be viewed on-line on our web site (www.huntsville.al-lams.org). Click on *Members*, then on *Photo Gallery* to see them.

Outgoing **Band Committee** Chairman Tom reported he has signed a contract with Robbins Music Company to repair and maintain all of our band instruments at a cost of \$4,800 per year beginning October 1. This compares with the \$6,995.59 that we spent this year, so it promises to save us over \$2,000. Two new schools were added to the Band Instrument Program, Central Elementary School and Madison Elementary School.

Announcements

Tom announced that **Optimist Club aprons** are available, and he intends to order some. They come in various colors—someone suggested they be in pancake batter tan. They are large, fully adjustable, suitable for kitchen or shop, and cost a mere \$12. Six people ordered them at the meeting. If you want one, contact Tom

Tom announced that he had **8 new keys made for the band closet** (approved by the City). Everyone on the Band Committee can now have their own numbered key. If you have an old key, turn it in and get a numbered key assigned to you. If you are on the Band Committee and don't have a key, see Tom.

Don't Forget: WE NEED MORE MEMBERS!

Invite someone to our October 4th meeting.

Clyde Merins

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

CALENDAR

- 9/27 Thursday 6:30 pm Downtown Holiday Inn
Officer Installation by Governor Helen Howard
- 10/2 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank
Board Meeting
- 10/4 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
**Brian Hicks - Alabama A&M
Director of Athletics**
- 10/11 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
**Dr. Casey Wardynski - Huntsville City
School Superintendant**
- 10/18 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Fabiani Duarte)
- 10/25 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn
Representative from The Village of Promise

The following changes are to be made to our Policy and Procedures manual.

Add the following paragraphs describing the membership process.

6.1 MEMBERSHIP

6.1.1 Application

An Optimist International membership application form that bears the endorsement of a member in good standing along with a check for \$30.00 shall be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

6.1.2 Membership Committee

The Secretary-Treasurer shall immediately refer all such applications to the Membership Committee for review. The membership committee shall the application within seven days and recommend the applicants election or rejection.

6.1.2 Club Approval

If approved by the Membership Committee, the Secretary-Treasurer shall notify the membership of the identity of the proposed member at the next meeting of the Club for vote by the club.

6.1.3 Post Processing

The Secretary-Treasurer, who shall send the new members information to Optimist International and mail a pro-rated invoice for the current quarter dues to the new member.

Add the following paragraph outlining the fees for a college member.

6.6.1.4 College Club Members

The dues for members attending college full-time shall be \$10.00 per quarter. They shall pay the current meal cost for any meetings they attend.

2012 -2013 COMMITTEES

COMMITTEE CHAIR

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ACHIEVEMENTS AND AWARDS

AL RENZ

BAND INSTRUMENT PROGRAM

ALFRED ADAMS

TOM CASTEEL
BILL CLARKE
GEORGE McDONOUGH
CLYDE NEVINS
GAY PEPPER
AL RENZ
JOHN SHIREY
MILT WILLIAMS
CARL WINKLER

CHAPLAIN

JIM BERRY

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

AL RENZ

ALFRED ADAMS
BUDDY BECK
BOB MARTIN
MILT WILLIAMS

HOSPITALITY AND FELLOWSHIP

JIM BERRY

JESSE LANG
GAY PEPPER
JOHN SHIREY

ESSAY CONTEST

AL RENZ

BOB MARTIN
GEORGE McDONOUGH

HANDICAP PLAYGROUND

AL RENZ

ZACK THOMPSON
ALBERTO DUARTE
CONNIE GIPSON

**COMMITTEE
CHAIR**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOOI CLUBS

FABIANI DUARTE

**JIM BERRY
TOM CASTEEL
ALBERTO DUARTE
JESSIE LANG
BOB MARTIN
GEORGE McDONOUGH
GAY PEPPER
BILL PETERS
AL RENZ
MILT WILLIAMS**

MEMBERSHIP

ZACK THOMPSON

TOM CASTEEL

NEWSLETTER

CLYDE NEVINS

TOM CASTEEL

ORATORICAL CONTEST

ALBERTO DUARTE

**JIM BERRY
MATT HANCOCK
AL RENZ
JESSE LANG**

**HAWTHORNE CONSERVATORY
PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

ALBERTO DUARTE

**BUDDY BECK
BOB MARTIN
DARREL McCOLGAN
AL RENZ**

PERSONAL GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

AL RENZ

RESPECT FOR LAW

GAY PEPPER

**JIM PEPPER
JIM ROE**

SERGEANT AT ARMS

BUDDY BECK

**COMMITTEE
CHAIR**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

TRISTAR PROGRAMS

JESSE LANG

TOM CASTEEL

CLYDE NEVINS

AL RENZ

YOUTH APPRECIATION

GAY PEPPER

CLYDE NEVIN

JIM PEPPER

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



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TO: