



PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY TREASURER

Al Renz
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Club meets
1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays
At 11:45 am
Downtown Holiday Inn
Huntsville, AL

Opti - Topics

Opening

A record crowd (in recent times, anyway) of 26 Optimists and 2 guests assembled at the Downtown Holiday Inn today for our regular luncheon meeting. Since our Club guarantees 22 meals, only 22 meals are prepared. This caused some delay in starting the meeting as latecomers in today's situation are consequently required to order their lunch from the regular DTH menu, paid for by the Club.

It was good to see both Sidney and Jeff Sandridge in attendance today. Our two guests today were Guy Kubic (Bill Peters) and Ashley Trawick (Jim & Peggy Otto). Bill said Guy has indicated he will join us as a member. Ashley is Jim and Peggy's niece.

President Tom Casteel asked Rev. Jim Berry to give the invocation and Matt Hancock to lead in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements

District Convention Report

President Tom announced that our Club was an Honor Club, and was the number one club in the Achievement and Awards (A&A) program in our club size category. Only one other Club, Perdido Bay, was ranked higher than our Club in the A&A program and they were a Distinguished Club.

**Our business meeting
is held on the 3rd
Thursday of the
month at the Optimist
Recreation Center on
Oakwood Avenue**

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The president and the secretary/treasurer of an Honor Club both receive a certificate.



President Tom Casteel presents an Optimist pen set to Al Renz, who served as secretary/treasurer for our Club

Tom announced a long list of awards won by our Club that merited patches for our Club banner. These awards include patches for: HOBY support, a \$30/member donation to OI Foundation, \$400 Club donation to OI Foundation, Friend of Youth award, the Community Service award and 3 patches for founding JOOI Clubs.

Tom also reported that Fabiani Duarte made an excellent presentation at the convention on how we initiated our very successful JOOI Club project. Tom said that several clubs told him they wished they could clone Fabiani and start a similar program.

Announcements & Reports

Al Renz announced that Jim Berry had achieved Level 4 in the PGI program, and when he has our creed memorized he will qualify for Level 5.



Al presents Jim with his Level 4 award.

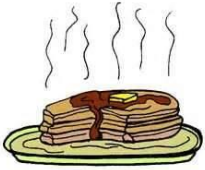
Tom Casteel directed the Club's attention to the Whitesburg MS JOOI Club banner which had been delivered and set up at the meeting for us to inspect. The banner is light weight and breaks down into small elements that can be carried in a carrying bag which comes with it.



John Inman, our newest member stands beside the new JOOI banner.

President Tom announced that the Club's Board of Directors will propose tweaking the process for approving new members. The new procedure would eliminate the need for a vote of approval at a meeting. Instead, after the Membership Committee approves a candidate for membership and this is announced to the Club, there would be a one-week window for members to send a disapproving vote on the candidate.

The proposed change to the Club's Policy Manual will be presented and voted upon at this month's business meeting.



Alberto Duarte reported on the recent Pancake Breakfast for the Hawthorne Conservatory. He stated that he considered it one of the best Pancake Breakfasts we have had. A large part of the success was the large participation by Club members and the enthusiastic participation by our JOOI Club from Chapman Middle School. **Alberto urged all members to get the Pancake Breakfast ticket money to him ASAP.** He plans to give a complete financial report and recommendations for future breakfasts at this month's business meeting.

Membership Chairman Zack Thompson urged the Club to invite a prospective member to a Club meeting. He asked for a show of hands on who had come to a meeting without being asked (no one). His message: "You've got to ask!"



Fabiani Duarte reported on a variety of JOOI Club news items. He had attended an Ed White MS JOOI Club meeting and was told they plan strong participation in our Oratorical Contest. He was very impressed that the club recited the Optimist Creed by heart (someone suggested they tutor Jim Berry). After today's meeting he will be meeting with the Davis Hill JOOI Club to review their planned programs.

This Friday, the Williams MS JOOI Club will have their installation ceremony. Fabiani urged as many as could make it to be there to show support at the ceremony.

Next week, on Thursday after school, the Hampton Cove JOOI Club will have a bake sale for a fund raiser. (Support it if you can)

Finally, on March 15, all of our JOOI Clubs will participate in the "Healthy Living Day" to be held at Columbia HS. There will be many demonstrations on how to live a healthy life. Fabiani expects School Superintendent Wardynski to attend, and that there will be significant media coverage.

Program



Jim Berry introduced today's speaker, Andy Setlow, who gave a lengthy and quite technical talk on his efforts to promote science education in our middle schools. He is a strong advocate for students at 9th grade and below to stay in school, get involved in "the hard courses" and make their careers in science and engineering. He related his "turning point" in school that got him interested in science, and wanted today's students to be similarly energized.

His talk highlighted the difference between acoustic waves and electromagnetic waves, and the reasons why students have cause to be confused when forced to use the same measurement, *Hertz*, for both. He deplored the decision of the 1960 International Conference on Weights and Measures to adopt Hz as the measurement for both sound and electromagnetic waves. The normal frequency of electromagnetic waves is about 1,000,000 times that for acoustic waves.

Mr. Setlow also talked about how "The Star Trek Paradox" adds confusion to students' understanding of wave propagation. For example, in space, where there is no atmosphere, sound would not be propagated and laser "death rays" could not be seen. Also, movies and TV programs never have the proper time lag to account for the slower speed of sound compared to that for light (about 5 seconds per mile of distance covered).

Mr. Setlow concluded his talk by showing a large chart called the “Rosetta Stone” of electromagnetic energy. This chart, developed by the Westinghouse Corporation in 1960, displays the relationship between wave length, frequency, temperature, and electron voltage for the complete spectrum of electromagnetic radiation. He offered to sell anyone in the club the chart for \$20.00 as a fundraiser for the Club treasury and for later donation to one of our JOOI Clubs. There were no takers on his offer.

At the conclusion of his talk, Mr. Setlow answered one question, “Is cell phone radiation hazardous to one’s health?” He stated that there is not enough definitive data at this time to make a conclusive statement, but that the frequency of cell phones should not damage human tissue. He did recommend, however, that cell phone users should keep them away from their head, using blue tooth or speakerphones instead.

Closing

President Tom gave our speaker an Optimist coffee cup coaster, and asked him to draw a name for our attendance prize. Ralph Caneer’s name was drawn on the first try. Dr. Carl Winkler led in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

Keep your thoughts positive, because your thoughts become your words.

Keep your words positive, because your words become your behavior.

Keep your behavior positive, because your behavior becomes your habits.

Keep your habits positive, because your habits become your values.

Keep your values positive, because your values become your destiny.

~Mahatma Gandhi

CALENDAR

2/14 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Lowell Zoller – Burritt on the Mountain

2/21 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food – (Jim Berry)

2/28 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Lee Marshall – Journalist, WHNT News 19 Team

3/5 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

Board Meeting

3/7 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD – Gay Pepper

3/9 – 3/10 Saturday-Sunday Meridian, Mississippi

JOOI District Convention

3/14 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD – Gay Pepper

3/21 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food – (Gay Pepper)

3/28 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD – Gay Pepper

PROPOSED POLICY MANUAL CHANGES

6.1.1 Application

FROM:

An Optimist International membership application form that bears the endorsement of a member in good standing shall be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

TO:

An Optimist International membership application form that bears the endorsement of a member in good standing along with an application fee of \$30.00 (\$10.00 for college students) shall be submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer.

6.1.2 Membership Committee

NO CHANGE:

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

6.1.3 Club Approval

FROM:

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.

TO:

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. Club members then have 6 days to oppose membership for the applicant by calling or emailing the President, Secretary/Treasurer or a Board member. If no objection to the applicant is received during this time the Secretary-Treasurer shall submit the applicant's information with registration payment to Optimist International, and mail a pro-rated dues invoice for the current quarter to the new member.

6.1.4 Post Processing

FROM:

If the application is approved by the club, the Secretary-Treasurer shall collect an application fee of \$30.00 from the applicant (\$10.00 for college members), submit the new member's information with registration payment to Optimist International, and mail a pro-rated invoice for the current quarter dues to the new member.

TO:

DELETED (Contents combined with Paragraph 6.1.3)