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Club meets

**1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays
At 11:45 am
Downtown Holiday Inn
Huntsville, AL**

Opti - Topics

Special Edition



Oratorical Contest Results

The 2013 Oratorical Contest was conducted on Saturday, March 9, at the Cooper House. It was uncertain, as always for this event, how many contestants would enter. Last year, we just had one contestant, albeit a very successful one.

This year's contest featured four boys and three girls as contestants. All of the boys were high school students, but two of the girl contestants were students at Morris Elementary School, one in 4th grade and one in 5th grade. Judges for the contest were three seniors and one junior from UAHuntsville, all majoring in either English or Communications, plus a UAHuntsville professor.

A half dozen Optimist Club members, plus soon-to-be member Tim Vanderveer, were on hand to assist Committee Chairman Alberto Duarte. Also helping was Megan McFerran, Fabian's girlfriend. Everyone enjoyed the refreshments Alberto had available: donuts, a cookie assortment, orange juice, apple juice and coffee.

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

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Results of the judges' scoring:

Boys' Competition:

First Place:

Connor Diaz, Age 17, Randolph School

Second Place:

Richard Austin Brown, Age 17, Randolph School

Third Place (tie):

Nimalen Sivapalen, Age 17, Columbia High School

Jeet Agarwal, Age 17, Randolph School

Girls' Competition:

First Place:

Carla Becker, Age 17, Randolph School

Second Place:

Tyanna Marie Davis, Age 11, Morris Elementary
School

Third Place:

Krystal Kendricks, Age 10, Morris Elementary School

Contestants were awarded their medals, except one for the tied 3rd place, following announcement of the judges' decisions. Albert announced that the checks for the contestants' monetary prizes would be mailed soon, and that the contestant who tied for 3rd place would be awarded both a medal and the \$100. He also requested the winners to give their speeches at an upcoming Optimist Club luncheon meeting when that can be arranged.

Good job, Alberto!



A few photos:



Tim and Megan at the Registration Desk.



Our youngest contestant receives her medal



Alberto with our contest winners.

First place winners are Connor Diaz, second from the left, and Carla Becker fifth from the left.