



**PRESIDENT**

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**SECRETARY TREASURER**

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**Club meets**  
**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays**  
**At 11:45 am**  
**Downtown Holiday Inn**  
**Huntsville, AL**

# Opti - Topics

## Opening

The monthly business meeting of the Optimist Club of Huntsville was held at the Optimist Recreation Center with 19 Optimists attending. We welcomed back Al Adams who is still recovering from his recent heart surgery. Gay Pepper was our caterer today, and she provided an impressive array of breads, meats, cheeses and condiments for us to make gourmet sandwiches. She also had some vegetable munchies, an assortment of chips, two cakes, and drinks.

President Tom Casteel called the meeting to order at 11:45 a. m. He asked Rev. Jim Berry to open the meeting in prayer, and Fabiani Duarte to lead in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Following our lunch, Tom opened the business session by reading a poem by Charles Osgood. The poem's theme was that there were jobs that anyone could do, but nobody would take responsibility to do them. He reminded those present (and you readers, too) that it would not be long before the Club officers for next year would need to staff committee chairmen and committee members—so don't be hesitant to accept a job when asked.

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

## **DIRECTORS**

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## **New Member Installation**

President Tom called John Inman and Fabiani Duarte forward for the purpose of installing John as a new member of our Club. Fabiani, his sponsor, related how his association with John in *Still Serving Veterans* revealed his optimistic outlook and willingness to serve. Fabiani received his bronze sponsor pin as part of the ceremony (two more and he gets a gold one).

## **Treasurer's Report**

Club Treasurer Al Renz reviewed the highlights of the Treasurer's report that had been provided to all attendees. The income for the 5 months of this fiscal year exceeded our expenses by \$763.15. Three youth projects (Band Instrument, JOOI Clubs, and Tri-Star Basketball) had expenses totaling \$10,275.00, all of which has now been reimbursed from the Optimist Foundation.

Al next reported on the results of the February 28, 2013 sentencing trial of Jeff Klimek. The Federal judge sentenced Jeff to 6 months in Federal prison, 6 months house arrest (with an ankle bracelet), and three years' probation. He was also directed to pay restitution to our Club of \$65,838.90. President Tom reported he had received a letter from Jeff's parole office in which they stated they will supervise the collection of the money Jeff is to pay us. If he does not pay, he will be returned to prison.

## **Committee Reports**



**JOOI Club** Committee Chairman Fabiani Duarte gave reports on three recent JOOI Club events. First, he announced that Madison Academy has formed our 11<sup>th</sup> JOOI Club with 41 members. This club was spearheaded by Taylor Kelly, a MA High School student, and it will be a high school club.

The installation of officers for this club will be April 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a. m. Fabiani asked for as many as could come to be there. President Tom asked for volunteers to be Club sponsors for the Madison Academy JOOI Club. Milt Williams volunteered to be the primary contact and Jim Roe volunteered to be the back-up.

Fabiani next reported on the JOOI Club District Meeting. He took 3 students and a teacher from our Chapman JOOI Club, and 3 others from our Morris Elementary Club went separately. He said the conference was a great experience for our JOOI clubbers. On the way back to Huntsville he treated his carload to a tour of the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa. As decided at the District Meeting, there will be a new JOOI Club Zone established in Huntsville. There will be a half-day Zone Conference in mid-May at which a JOOI Club Lt. Governor will be elected (three students have already expressed interest in running for the job).

The third and most recent event was the Healthy Living Day last Friday at Columbia High School. Fabiani, Alberto, Jim Berry and George McDonough attended. They all reported on the enthusiasm of the 150 attendees from 6 of our JOOI Clubs. The JOOI Clubbers took great interest in the information given in the six “healthy living” stations.



In the absence of **Oratorical Contest** Chairman Alberto Duarte, President Tom announced that our Club was the only one in our zone to hold an oratorical contest. Consequently, our two winners will advance directly to the Regional Contest at the Downtown YMCA in Birmingham, Alabama, on April 6.



Youth Appreciation Committee Chairman Bob Martin announced that the **Youth Appreciation banquet** has been scheduled for two weeks from today, April 4, at the Mayfair Church of Christ (on Carl T. Jones Drive) at 6:30 p. m. Gay Pepper has the food lined up, and a number of our youth awardees have indicated they will attend. They include the Essay Contest Winners and some JOOI Clubbers. At this time it has not been decided if the Oratorical Contest winners will receive awards at the banquet.



**Band Committee** Chairman Al Adams announced that it will soon be time to present our annual band awards. He asked each Optimist who has a school with our instruments to contact the Band Directors to ask them to designate a student to receive the Optimist Band Award plaque, and to specify when they would like the awards to be presented. This is customarily at the spring concert, but may be at a school awards ceremony.

## Optimist Foundation Report



Foundation President Bill Clarke reported that the Foundation had a balance of \$788,829 at the end of February. This figure is about \$8,100 higher than the balance at the end of January. The cost basis for the Foundation's investment portfolio is \$719,302.

## New Business

President Tom Casteel asked for volunteers to form a **nominating committee** for the 2013-2014 Club Officers. According to our bylaws, the election is to be held before April 30. Two Vice Presidents and three Directors are due to be elected. Al Renz, Fabiani Duarte, Al Adams and Buddy Beck volunteered to form the committee.



The **Respect for Law Banquet** has been scheduled for May 6, 2013, at 6:30 p. m. at the

Mayfair Church of Christ. Our Club needs to select an honoree for the banquet by April 29, 2013. Tom reported that Duane Plank will contact Sheriff Blake Dorning to select our honoree.

## Closing

Thanks to President Tom's prompting, our business meeting was over well before 1:00 p. m. today. Dr. Carl Winkler led in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**"Things turn out best for the people who make the best out of the way things turn out."**

*~ Art Linkletter,*

### Poem Read by Tom

There was a most important job that needed to be done,  
And no reason not to do it, there was absolutely none.  
But in vital matters such as this, the thing you have to ask  
Is who exactly will it be who'll carry out the task?

Anybody could have told you that everybody knew  
That this was something somebody would surely have to do.  
Nobody was unwilling; anybody had the ability.  
But nobody believed that it was their responsibility.

It seemed to be a job that anybody could have done,  
If anybody thought he was supposed to be the one.  
But since everybody recognized that anybody could,  
Everybody took for granted that somebody would.

But nobody told anybody that we are aware of,  
That they would be in charge of seeing it was taken care of.  
And nobody took it on themselves to follow through,  
And do what everybody thought that somebody would do.

When what everybody needed so, did not get done at all,  
Everybody was complaining that somebody dropped the ball.  
Anybody then could see it was an awful crying shame,  
And everybody looked around for somebody to blame.

Somebody should have done the job  
And everybody should have,  
But in the end nobody did  
What anybody could have.

*~Charles Osgood*

## Photos



**President Tom Installs New Member John Inman with Sponsor Fabiani Duarte**



**The Lovely Spread Gay Pepper provided**

## CALENDAR

3/28 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

**Leah Norton – Director of Social Services  
Agape of North Alabama**

4/2 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

**Board Meeting**

4/4 Thursday 6:30 pm Mayfair Church of Christ

**Youth Appreciation Week Banquet**

4/11 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

**TBD – Alberto Duarte**

4/18 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

**Business Meeting - Food – (Alberto Duarte)**

4/25 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

**TBD – Alberto Duarte**

5/2 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

**TBD – Al Renz**

5/6 Monday 6:30 pm Mayfair Church of Christ

**Respect for Law Banquet**

5/9 Thursday **No Meeting**

## THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself -

**T**o be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

**T**o talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

**T**o make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

**T**o look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true

**T**o think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

**T**o be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

**T**o forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

**T**o wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

**T**o give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

**T**o 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:**