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SECRETARY TREASURER

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

Opti - Topics

Opening

A fine turnout of 24 Optimists assembled at Optimist Research Park today for the Club's monthly business meeting. Our chef today, in absentia, was Marlene Renz, who had prepared a delicious, home-cooked brisket for our lunch. Her husband, Al, filled in nicely, however, and served us brisket along with potato salad, coleslaw and assorted cookies.

It was good to have Milt Williams back with us today. Milt is getting around with the aid of a leg-supporting cart while his broken leg heals. George McDonough has ditched his sling, but still has a couple more weeks until his collar bone healing will allow him to drive.

It was reported that President Tom Casteel had surgery on both feet early this week. I called Tom after the meeting for details, and found that Tom had three toenails surgically removed. He said it hurt like crazy when he walked, so he is spending a lot of time in his recliner. He goes back to the doctor next Monday, and should know after that if he will be able to make our meeting next week.

In the absence of President Tom Casteel, VP Fabiani Duarte chaired today's meeting. He asked Rev. Jim Berry to give the invocation, upon which Jim deferred back to Fabiani who gave the prayer. Peggy Otto led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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Jim Berry announced that a student at Morris Elementary School, where we have a JOOI Club, recently suffered a brain aneurism and is on life support in the Children's Hospital in Birmingham. Students and teachers at Morris have been raising money to help the family defray the expenses of their many trips to Birmingham. Club members are invited to help in this, so please contact Jim or Fabiani if you care to donate.

On a lighter note, while our chairman-for-the-day took telephone calls and ate a late lunch, Jim Berry killed a little time by reading a parody on the Biblical account of Samson & Delilah.

Old Business

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Al Renz gave the financial report for the Club covering the period Oct. 1 through April 30. For this period the Club had \$9,050 in income and \$8,442.42 in expenses. Youth and Community Service expenditures totaled \$17,007.66. The Club's bank balance on April 30 was \$1,062.18, but since April is the first month of the quarter, most of the dues have been collected and this amount will be reduced by regular club expenditures through the rest of the quarter.

Respect for Law



Fabiani reported that the Respect for Law Banquet last week had gone quite well, and good number of our members attended. He particularly singled out Duane Plank for doing the best job of all those who introduced awardees from Law Enforcement. Duane received a round of applause. (See photos in photo section)

JOOI Club Committee



Fabiani reported on the JOOI Club Zone Convention. The rainy weather likely was the cause of less than half those signed up being in attendance, but here were representatives from nine JOOI clubs in attendance. Fabiani thanked all the Club members for their efforts in supporting the many tasks required in putting on the convention.

Fabiani reported that several of the awards to teachers and students were given out at the convention, but he still had ten or so awards remaining. He asked for volunteers to see that these awards get to the schools and be awarded before school was over. Various members stepped up and volunteered and all the awards were given out to complete this task.



Fabiani repeated his announcement that he had been accepted as a student at both Mercer Law School and Mercer Theological School in Georgia, and that his last day in Huntsville would be August 16. He reported that John Inman had stepped up to take over the JOOI Club Committee, and he would be transitioning the committee to John until then. He asked for the Club's members to support John in keeping the momentum going on this wonderful project. "Keep it alive."

Fabiani gave a short speech citing some of the amazing results from some of our JOOI Clubs. Some of the JOOI Clubs are even sponsoring international projects. Lee High School's effort to start a television "channel" to report Huntsville school activities has now received substantial financial support from the Huntsville City Schools. The School System will fully fund a television studio at LHS. Fabiani said it will cover more than sports and would be a "mini CNN" and not a "mini ESPN."

Band Instrument Committee



In the absence of Al Adams, Fabiani asked for individual reports from Band Committee members on the status of concerts and award ceremonies. About half of the school bands have had their spring concerts; some schools will have only an awards ceremony.

Hospitality Committee

Chairman Bob Martin reported that the committee has a tentative plan for our picnic this year. The committee is looking at having the picnic at the Ford's Chapel Church's pavilion on Saturday, August 3, pending a review of potential conflicts. More details later.

Foundation Report



Gay Pepper gave the report from the Foundation this month. She said the total of the Foundation's three accounts [a small checking account, a CD, and the trust account] totaled over \$940,000 at the end of April. Of this, over \$800,000 is in the trust account managed by Regions Bank. The Foundation is working on a report to document how much money the Foundation has given to the Club for its Youth and Community Service projects through the years.

Membership Committee

Committee Chairman Zack Thompson urged the membership to keep looking for new members. He said he had asked all of his friends.

New Business

Milt Williams announced that he and his wife would be spending next winter in Florida beginning in September. As a result, he is resigning his recent election as First Vice President in consideration of the need to fill this position for the entire year. After some discussion, it was decided to ask the Nominating Committee to either come up with a new candidate for First Vice President, or to move Al Adams up to First Vice President and get a new candidate for Second Vice President.

Closing

Fabiani made a cell phone call to Marlene Renz, and all those present shouted a hearty "Thank you!" to her for the wonderful brisket she had made for our lunch.

Our newest member, Vastell Williams, attending his first business meeting today, led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

In spite of Fabiani presiding today, we were out by 1:10 p. m.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

"Whether sixty or sixteen, there is in every human being's heart the lure of wonder, the unfailing child-like appetite of what's next, and the joy of the game of living. In the center of your heart and my heart there is a wireless station; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, courage and power from men and from the infinite, so long are you young."

~Samuel Ullman

PHOTOS



Duane Plank presents Deputy Roland Campos the Optimist Club of Huntsville's Law Enforcement Award in Honor of Jeff Smith.



**Taylor McCalpine of Ed White Middle School was Elected
JOOI North Alabama Zone Lieutenant Governor**



Banners of the Nine Clubs Attending the Zone Convention

CALENDAR

5/23 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

Leah Amos –President Junior Achievement of North Alabama

5/30 Thursday **No Meeting (5th Thursday)**

6/4 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank

Board Meeting

6/6 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD - Tom Casteel

6/13 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD – Tim Vander Veer

6/20 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food – (Tim Vander Veer)

6/27 Thursday 11:45 am Downtown Holiday Inn

TBD – Tim Vander Veer

7/4 Thursday **No Meeting**



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: