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Club meets

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

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

Opti - Topics

Opening

Thirty-eight Optimists and guests filled the Sun Room at the Downtown Holiday Inn tonight to hold the Club's Installation Banquet for our 2013-2014 officers. President Tom Casteel called the meeting to order, and asked Jim Berry to give the invocation, and Al Adams to lead in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Berry announced that one of our members, Peggy Otto, was celebrating her [censored] birthday, and we sang Happy Birthday to her. We enjoyed a very tasty meal of roast pork loin with a special sweet potato dish and roasted vegetables.

Outgoing President's Awards

Outgoing President Tom Casteel took the podium to give out his awards for the past year. First, he complimented the Club for being the best Club in the District, and for all their hard work in making it so. He then presented an award to every member for their participation: a tote bag with an embroidered logo of the Optimist Club of Huntsville. He walked to each table in the room, giving a brief summary of each member's participation as he gave them their tote bag.

Next, Tom gave out two special awards in the form of personalized plaques. These awards were:

- *Friend of Youth Award* to Bill Clarke for recognition of his creating the Band Instrument Project, and for his continued active participation in the project for so many years.

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- ***Optimist of the Year Award*** to Buddy Beck for his faithful, behind-the-scenes work in setting up our meeting room, organizing the closet at the ORC, and for his continual support and encouragement.

District Governor's Remarks

President Tom Casteel introduced District Governor David Mills. Gov. Mills stated that he was pleased to officiate in the installation of our Club. He said we were "head and shoulders above any other Club in the District."

Gov. Mills charged the incoming Board of Directors to not be satisfied with the status quo. Once they did that, "It's over." He said they should seek to find the pressing needs of our community and strive to meet these needs. This will give our club visibility in the community. They should solicit suggestions from the membership as well as community leaders about new initiatives.

He charged Secretary/Treasurer Al Renz to keep up the good work, saying Al knew better than he did how to do his job. As for the Vice Presidents, Gov. Mills recommended they each be given responsibility for a portfolio of club projects and programs, and that they not consider their position as purely ceremonial. Delegate, and follow up on these projects to make the Club even better.

For incoming President George McDonough, Gov. Mills charged him to make the Optimist Club of Huntsville even better. He has a tough job, but he also has a great team. His message: Don't let up!

Officer Installation

Governor Mills installed the 2013-2-14 officers by having them recite the oath of office. Present for the installation ceremony were:

- *President* George McDonough
- *Vice President* Al Adams
- *Secretary/Treasurer* Al Renz
- *Past President* Tom Casteel
- *Director* Bob Martin
- *Director* Jim Otto
- *Director* Tim Vander Veer
- *Director* Jim Roe

Passing of the Gavel

President George McDonough accepted the President's gavel from Tom Casteel. George then presented Tom with two gifts. He said he knew Tom had enough plaques to cover a wall or two in his house, so he wanted to give him a useful gift. He asked the one person who knew what Tom would like (Tom), and presented him with a collapsible cart. Then, he said he wanted to give Tom something that he (George) liked, and gave him a beautiful ceramic tile with a Renoir Iris design.

Incoming President's Remarks

George made a brief speech on his outlook for the next year. He said we have a lot to do, but he looks forward to another great year. We will have more competition in the District this year, he feels, because other Clubs are picking up on starting JOOI Clubs. He complimented the membership on how well they have filled in the committee staffing sheets. In closing, George said he would always be there when needed, and he hopes the membership will be there when they were needed as well.

Closing

Doctor Carl Winkler, a member of the Optimist Club of Huntsville since 1955, led those present in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year. He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.

Finish every day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense.

This new day is too dear, with its hopes and invitations, to waste a moment on the yesterdays.”

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

CALENDAR

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|--------|-----------------------------|--|
| 10/1 | Tuesday 4:00 pm | 1st Commercial Bank Board Meeting |
| 10/3 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn Will Worthington – Worthington Mortgage |
| 10/4-6 | Holiday Inn – Vicksburg, MS | AL-LA-MS District Meeting |
| 10/10 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn Susanna Leberman – Archivist at the Huntsville Public Library |
| 10/17 | Thursday 11:45 am | Optimist Recreation Center Business Meeting - Food – (Tim Vander Veer) |
| 10/24 | Thursday 11:45 am | Downtown Holiday Inn Jane Orton – Clinical Director National Children's Advocacy Center Huntsville |
| 10/31 | Thursday | No Meeting (5th Thursday) |

- PHOTOS -



Outgoing President Tom Casteel



Governor David Mills



Incoming President George McDonough and Governor David Mills



President Tom presents Bill Clarke the "Friend of Youth Award"



President Tom presents Buddy Beck the "Optimist of the Year: Award"



Jesse Lang



Carl Winkler and Bill Clarke



Jim and Peggy Otto



Vastell and Michelle Williams



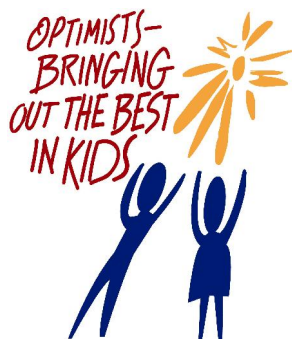
The New Officers all Swear to do Their Best



George presents Tom a Cart to Carry his Stuff at District Meetings



Ceramic Artwork of Renoir Irises George Presented to Tom



Huntsville Optimist Club
710 Versailles Drive
Huntsville, AL 35803-1728



TO:

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