



**OPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL**

*Friend of Youth*

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**Club meets**

**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays**

**At 11:45 am**

**Mullins Restaurant  
Huntsville, AL**

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

# Opti - Topics

## Special Edition

### 2014 Oratorical Contest

Our Club's 2014 Oratorical Contest was another rousing success, thanks to the able leadership of Contest Chairman Alberto Duarte. The contest was held on Saturday, March 8, at the Cooper House, and fine weather cooperated to bring a good turn out to hear nine young people compete. Seven Optimists from our Club assisted Alberto in registering and greeting the contestants along with their friends and relatives. Former Optimist Joe Pullen (and Martha) also attended to support his grandson, Chase Hammett who competed in the boys' contest.

Five boys, aged 13 to 18, and four girls, aged 14 to 18, competed in the contest. The topic for this year's contest was "How My Passions Impact the World." Each contestant did a fine job, and the quality of all the speeches was excellent.

The contest judges were juniors and seniors from the Department of Communications at UAH. Considering the length of time it took them to bring in the two slates of winners, judging was not an easy job this year.

First-place winners received a gold medal and a check for \$300, second-place winners a silver medal and a check for \$200, and third place winners a bronze medal and a check for \$100.

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The winners were:

### **Girl Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Carla Becker, Senior at Randolph HS

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Claire Walker, Freshman at Hazel Green HS

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Natalie Burdine, Senior at Randolph HS

### **Boy Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Branden Walker, Junior at Hazel Green HS

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Connor Diaz, Senior at Randolph HS

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Roman Hawrych, Sophomore at Randolph HS

# - PHOTOS -



**Al Adams & Alberto Duarte Register a Contestant**



**Joe Pullen (2nd from Left) & Martha Pullen (far right)  
in the audience to support their grandson**



**Girl Contestants Await Contest Start**



**(left to Right) Al Renz, Claire Walker, Natalie Burdine, Carla Becker, Alberto Duarte, Branden Walker, Connor Diaz, Roman Hawrych.**



**Alberto Duarte with Contest Judges  
(Communications Majors at UAH)**

## 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:**