



### **PRESIDENT**

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### **SECRETARY TREASURER**

**Al Renz**

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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**

# Opti - Topics

## **Opening**

The Optimist Club of Huntsville held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting at the Optimist Recreation Center today. Fourteen Optimists braved the sub-freezing weather to attend.



Jim Berry arranged our catered meal today, and it was a complete meal consisting of a tossed salad, scalloped potatoes, baked chicken, sugar peas, rolls and home-made peach cobbler. Our caterer was Kathy Belcher of Kathleen's Catering, and the food was delicious. The Club gave her (and Jim) a round of applause.

We had one guest at our meeting, Ms. Martha Dillard. She came to the ORC today to work on income tax, but our meeting postponed that activity. Carl Winkler struck up a conversation with her in the lobby and invited her to the meeting. She later expressed interest in joining the Club!

President Al asked Rev. Jim Berry to give the opening prayer, and Al led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **Optimist Family News**

Alberto Duarte reported that he hadn't been able to contact anyone in the Caneer family to see if **Ralph Caneer** was still in Huntsville Hospital. If he is, Alberto reminded the Club that he wants no visitors. He will continue trying to make contact to get an updated report.

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

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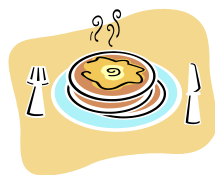
## **Treasurer's Report**



President Al asked Treasurer Al Renz for his Treasurer's report. Al's report covered the first four months of this fiscal year—through January 31, 2015. Highlights of Al's report are:

- We continued to receive Jeff Klimek's monthly payment of \$150.
- The Youth Activities expenditures continue to be the only expenditures for the year to date, totaling \$5,173.05.
- Outstanding dues at the end of January totaled \$1,834.00.
- Our **bank balance at the end of January was \$3,901.35.**

## **Pancake Breakfast Financial Report**



Treasurer Al Renz also reported on the results of our fundraising project, the recent Pancake Breakfast:

**Income:** \$900 from the Club's ticket sales; \$1,010 from the Church's ticket sales; and \$530 taken at the door (which included a \$250 donation).

**Expenses:** \$458.91

**Net Profit:** \$1,981.09 (to be presented to the Hawthorne Conservatory)

## **Committee Reports**



**Oratorical Contest** Committee Chairman, Alberto Duarte, reported that everything is ready for the contest to be held **March 7, at 900 a. m.**, at the Cooper House. He said he expects several contestants from Randolph HS,

but other than that, he is in the dark about other contestants. He urged the Club to contact anyone who has children in the required age bracket to encourage entering.



Al Adams reminded all JOOI Club contacts that we need some volunteers to man our booth at the **Kite Contest**, also to be held on **March 7 beginning at 11:00 a. m.** He also asked JOOI Club contacts to borrow the JOOI Club banners for display in our booth at the contest. Tom Casteel has ordered the balsa wood gliders we will give away at the contest.



President Al Adams reported he met with the principal at Chapman MS, and a new advisor has been named for the **Chapman MS JOOI Club.** **Johnson High School** is still dragging their feet on getting started.

There was a discussion on how to rejuvenate our defunct JOOI Clubs. John Inman said the key to a successful club was getting an enthusiastic teacher to be the club sponsor. Al Adams said he is familiar with teachers' work loads, and "teachers think they are a lot busier than they are."



Alberto Duarte, president of the **Optimist Foundation** reported that the Foundation's investments lost about \$22,000 during January due to the rather sharp marked downturn. He expects our account in February will regain most, if not all, of that loss.

## **New Business**



President Al Adams reported that **Mullins Restaurant closed this week**, unannounced to our Club or to the employees. Al said he tried unsuccessfully to retrieve our badges and banners which are stored in the restaurant. Since this has been our regular meeting place, we have to scramble for a place to meet next week as well as look for another regular eating place (being investigated by Gay Pepper and her committee). *(NOTE: Since the meeting Al was able to retrieve our banners and PA system through the property owner)*

Our caterer for the day, Kathy Belcher said she might be able to accommodate the Club on Thursdays in her restaurant, **The Cozy Bean Café**, on Whitesburg Dr., but we would have to share half of the café with other patrons, perhaps separated by a screen.

She suggested we could also look at **Wenzel's Oyster House** and the **Huntsville Country Club** (which recently reopened for business).

Alberto Duarte said he had approached the **Cooper House** and they would charge the Club \$80 room fee, but would give us *one* free use. He also has contacted **Rosie's** on South Parkway, and they would also give us *one* free use of their meeting room.



Gay Pepper's committee was scheduled to have tried out the **88 Buffet** on Feb. 10, but no one on her committee was at today's meeting to report on their findings. Buddy Beck had previously contacted them, and they do have a separate room for us to meet with no room charge.

**Motion:** Richie Myers moved that the Club meet at the **88 Buffet** one time next Thursday. Buddy Beck seconded.

After some discussion of the other possibilities listed above, **the motion carried.**

The meeting time will be 11:30 (instead of 11:45) due to influx of cars in the nearby parking lot around noon. See map at the end of the newsletter. This is a trial, and not intended to be a permanent location at this time.

## **Announcements**

Tom Casteel reported that he is in the process of designing a **new Club brochure**. He gave a survey sheet to each attendee for them to vote on their favorite projects; the top vote-getters would get more attention in the new brochure.

Tom Casteel reported on the **District Awards** garnered by our Club at the January District Meeting. We received awards for:

- New Member Recruiting Awards to Al Renz and George McDonough
- First Place in Achievement and Awards points in Category 2
- First Place for our Club Bulletin in Category 3
- Patch for the "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" Award
- Patch for participating in the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership program

Tom also announced that he has **moved our Club's web site**. The new URL is [www.hsvoptimists.org](http://www.hsvoptimists.org) and is owned by our club.

## Closing

Dr. Carl Winkler led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

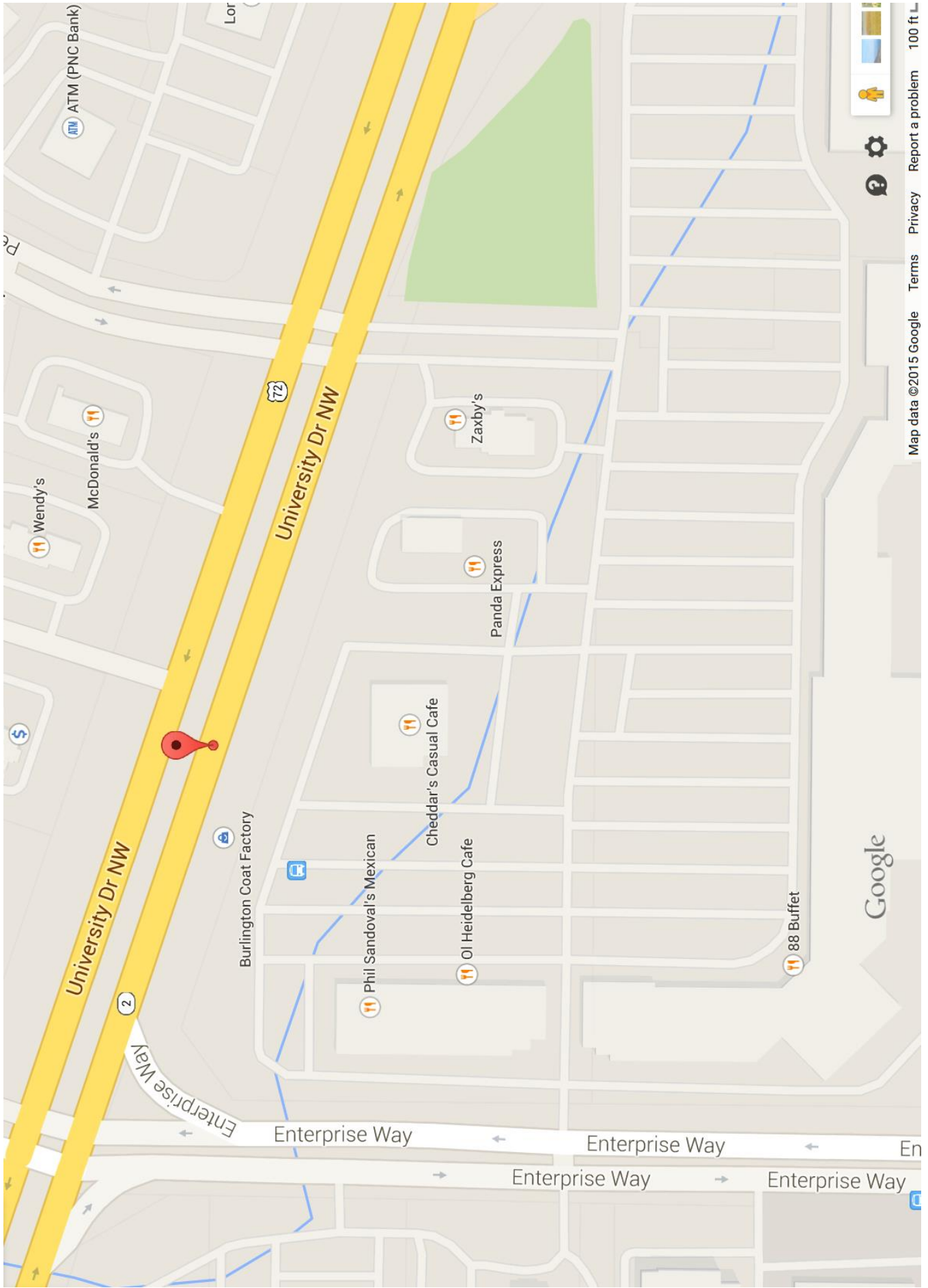
**“There is no exercise better for the heart than reaching down and lifting people up.”**

*~John Holmes*



# CALENDAR

- 2/26 Thursday 11:45 am 88 Buffet  
**Councilman Bill Kling – Huntsville City Council**
- 3/3 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank  
**Board Meeting**
- 3/5 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**Dr. Andrew Hugine, Jr. – President, Alabama A&M**
- 3/12 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**Mr. Jerry Mitchell – Executive Director**  
**North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce**
- 3/19 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food – (Alfred Adams)**
- 3/26 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**Mr. Carlton Wright – Director of Bands, Alabama A&M**
- 4/2 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**TBD – Alberto Duarte**
- 4/6 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank  
**Board Meeting**
- 4/9 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**TBD – Alberto Duarte**
- 4/16 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food – (Alberto Duarte)**
- 4/23 Thursday 11:45 am TBD  
**TBD – Alberto Duarte**
- 4/30 Thursday **NO MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday**



ATM (PNC Bank)

Wendy's

McDonald's

University Dr NW

72

2

Enterprise Way

Enterprise Way

Enterprise Way

Enterprise Way

Enterprise Way

Burlington Coat Factory

Phil Sandoval's Mexican

Ol Heidelberg Cafe

Cheddar's Casual Cafe

Panda Express

Zaxby's

88 Buffet

Google



## 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



**Huntsville Optimist Club**  
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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**TO:**