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SECRETARY TREASURER

Al Renz

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Club meets

1st, 2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

Check Website for

location

hsvoptimists.org

Opti - Topics

Opening

The Optimist Club of Huntsville held its regularly scheduled Business Meeting at the Optimist Recreation Center today with an attendance of 13 Optimists plus two new members who are not yet installed: Marilyn King-Jordan and Matt Clarke (see photo section).



Tom Casteel was our caterer today, and we enjoyed a different and tasty treat: taco salads with fixings provided by the Guadalajara Restaurant in south Huntsville. There was a choice of chicken or beef, with lettuce, cheese, sauce, guacamole and sour cream, along with an ample supply of corn chips, plus drinks and a desert.

President Al asked Duane Plank to give the opening prayer, and Al led us in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The President's Minute

President Al Adams said he wanted to **encourage our attendance at the District Meeting in Huntsville this weekend.** He hopes to see a good turnout from our club, since he expects the other clubs in the zone will turn out in force. We are the perennial No. 1 Club in the Alabama-Mississippi District, and as one of the hosts of the District Meeting, we need to put our best foot forward.

Announcements

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

DIRECTORS

2 YEAR

Tom Casteel

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1 YEAR

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Clyde Nevins

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You may register for the **District Meeting** at the Registration Desk, open from 8:30 a. m. to 6:00 p. m. if you intend to take in the entire meeting's activities.

Tom Casteel recommended that Club members at least attend the **Saturday night banquet**. This is a very nice affair (suit and tie attire), and you do not have to register for the rest of the meeting to attend the banquet. Cost of the banquet is \$25.00. Tom will take care of making your registration (required) for the banquet if you call him.

Al said he could use **one or two volunteers for helping to man the Hospitality Suite on Saturday morning**. Our Club has that responsibility from 8:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon on that day.



Tom Casteel our OI Foundation Rep is collecting \$36.50 from all Club members that are willing to contribute to the **Dime-a-Day Club** drive. The money collected is used by the OI Foundation to fund the scholarships for the Oratorical and Essay Contests, among other things. Tom has committed the Club to have a minimum of 10 members in the club. You'll get a nice lapel pin to wear for your contribution. Make your checks out to "OI Foundation" and note "dime-a-day" on the memo line.

Al Renz has some extra Club shirts for sale. He has both the polo style (at \$15) and a regular button-up style in both long and short-sleeve versions (\$20) available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Treasurer's Report



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

- The total revenue (income) for the period was \$13,847.10.
- We continued to receive Jeff Klimek's monthly payment of \$150, which now totaled \$1,500 for the year.
- The Club's expenses for the period totaled \$10,431.28, excluding Youth Activities and Community Service Expenditures.
- Youth Activities and Community Service expenses for the period were \$19,867.25. About two-thirds of this expense was for the Band Instrument Project.
- Our bank balance at the end of July was \$1,810.15, with \$7,282.23 reimbursement receivable from the Foundation. There was also \$930 receivable in outstanding dues and \$24 for guest meals, giving us a potential cash position of \$10,022.38.

Al said this was the first time in 8 years that we have had a potential cash position of over \$10,000. When asked why this was the case, Al said most of it was due to the lower cost of meals at Mullins (compared to that at the Holiday Inn). We save about \$300 a month from the lower meal cost.

Committee Reports



Al Renz reported that both Columbia HS and Williams MS had re-chartered their **JOOI Clubs**. He also mentioned that if a Club did not charter last year, they would have to charter as a new club this year.

Al Adams said he had been in contact with the principal at Hazel Green HS and Chapman MS, but their clubs were not ready for re-chartering. Also, he had received a voice mail from Whitesburg MS, presumably about the JOOI Clubs, but had been unable to make contact with the caller.



Band Instrument Committee Chairman Tom Casteel reported that we now have 22 schools that will be receiving band instruments on loan through our program. Jesse Lang has recently joined this committee, and all 22 schools now have Optimist contacts. All but five of our instruments have been refurbished by Southeastern and are now in stock in our store room.



George McDonough reported that he had taken a large quantity and variety of school supplies to **Morris Elementary School**. He said he was able to find a carton of 48 boxes of crayons at a good price and bought them. He reported that the Principal of the school, was very appreciative of the donation, and George said “They’re such nice people out there.” It was suggested that at his next delivery he should talk up re-chartering a JOOI Club there.



Alberto Duarte, president of the **Optimist Foundation** reported that the Foundation’s assets totaled will be somewhat lower because of the recent downturn in the market. He reported that the fund was at \$866,923.34 at the end of July, but had gone down some since then.

Old Business



President Al reported that the Board of Directors had approved the scheduling of **one evening meeting of the Club every month**, and that would be the first Thursday’s meeting. Gay Pepper’s committee is looking for a suitable place, which may or may not be Mullins Restaurant. The selected place will be announced at next week’s meeting.



President Al reminded everyone that it will soon be time to sell pecans in our **fall fund raiser**. Everyone in the Club will be responsible for selling 10, one-pound bags of premium pecan halves. Tom Casteel suggested that it isn’t too early to take advance orders from your Sunday school class or whatever.

George McDonough volunteered to take on the chairmanship of the Pecan Sale fund raiser since last-year’s chairman, Bob Martin, has his hands full with personal problems.

New Business



Alberto Duarte brought up an issue he said the Club should give careful consideration to, i. e., “What is our purpose?” He said he had recently talked with Fabiani about the deteriorating situation in starting JOOI Clubs, and he has concluded that the Club needs to give some careful thought to where we put our energy. Do we really want to commit to start more JOOI Clubs? How do they compare in

value with the Oratorical and Essay Contests, the Band Instrument Program, the Pancake Breakfast, etc.?

President Al Adams said he agrees that this needs discussion, and he will put it on next month's Business Meeting's agenda. He shares Alberto's concern about whether the club can foster 15 or 16 JOOI Clubs with our aging and shrinking membership.

Closing

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

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“If we did all the things we are capable of, we would literally astound ourselves.”

~Thomas Alva Edison



**New Member Marilyn King-Jordan
with President Al**



**New Member Matt Clarke
(with his Club shirt already)**

CALENDAR

- 8/27 Thursday 11:45 am Mullin's Restaurant
Libby Parker – HOPE Leadership Academy
- 9/1 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 9/3 Thursday 6:00 pm TBD
TBD –
- 9/10 Thursday
NO MEETING – Replaced by Club Picnic on Saturday
- 9/12 Saturday 3:00 pm - Ford's Chapel, 280 Ford Chapel DR, Harvest, AL
Annual Club Picnic
- 9/17 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Andrew Driver)
- 9/24 Thursday 6:30 pm Optimist Recreation Center
**Installation Banquet
Special Guest – Governor Tolanda Beal**
- 10/1 Thursday 6:00 pm TBD
TBD –
- 10/6 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 10/8 Thursday 11:45 am Mullin's Restaurant
TBD –

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



Huntsville Optimist Club
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO: