



## **PRESIDENT**

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## **1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

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## **2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

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## **SECRETARY TREASURER**

**Al Renz**

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**Club meets**

**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday**

**At 6:00 pm**

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

**At 11:45 am**

**Mullins Restaurant**

# Opti - Topics

## **January Business Meeting**

Fourteen Optimists and one guest assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center for this month's business meeting. Our guest was Patricia Lang, who assisted Jesse in making it to the meeting. Richie Myers was our caterer today, and we enjoyed fixing our own deli sandwiches accompanied by a fresh tossed green salad, potato salad, chips, cookies and drinks.

## **Opening**

President Al called on Rev. Jim Berry to bring the opening prayer, and Jim also led the Club in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Al thanked Richie for bringing today's lunch.

## **Optimist Family news**

**Matt and Bill Clarke** have both been down with flu-like symptoms. Matt made today's meeting, but Matt said Bill, who apparently caught whatever it is from Matt, wasn't up to making the meeting.

Today was **Rebecca Billings'** birthday. We were all prepared to sing *Happy Birthday* to her, but she didn't show. Al said she was known to have had a birthday party last weekend, so she didn't miss out on a celebration.

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

## **DIRECTORS**

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## **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

#### **Clyde Nevins**

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## **Treasurer's Report**



Treasurer Al Renz distributed the **financial report for the First Quarter**, the first three months of our fiscal year. For this period, our expenses exceeded our revenues by \$219.67. The deficit was due in part to outstanding payment for pecans from our fundraiser, and in part due to outstanding reimbursement for meals for paying guests.

Youth Activities Expenditures were \$4,692.30 for the Band Instrument program, and \$1,085.84 for JOOI Club expenses. We currently have reimbursement requests to the Foundation of \$3,694.05.

The Bank Balance at the end of December was \$4082.42. With the reimbursement is received from the Foundation, the Club has a Potential Cash Position of \$8,384.36.

Treasurer Al reported that we chartered **3 JOOI Clubs** by the January 15 deadline. Grace Lutheran's JOOI Club has since submitted their charter paperwork and will be added next quarter.

Treasurer Al asked if everyone was clear on the new dues structure, and everyone nodded. Al said he wouldn't know for sure how the new dues structure would affect our finances until next quarter, but he is confident that it will prevent a deficit in our meal expenses.

## **Committee Reports**



Jessie Lang thanked the several Optimists who came out last Saturday to put on the Club's **Tri-Star Basketball Competition**. Unfortunately, the contest could not be held because someone in the City's Parks and Recreation chain of command

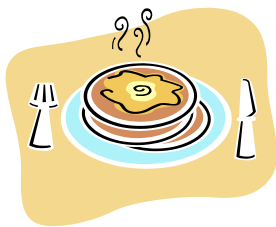
scheduled basketball games in the gym we had reserved for the event, and these games were in progress.

There was no option but to reschedule (or cancel) the event. President Al suggested that it might be better to hold the competition after basketball season was over. Jim Roe recommended that the Club cancel it for this year. The Board will take it up at next month's meeting.



George McDonough, chairman of the **Essay Contest**, reported he is “running a trap line” to recruit contestants for the essay contests. He has contacts in a home school association that he hopes will generate several. He said trying to get teachers to promote the program hasn't worked well. However, Vastel Williams said that Ms. Elliot, his daughter's English teacher at New Century HS, is assigning everyone in her class the Optimist Essay topic so they could be entered in our contest. Marilyn King-Jordan said she has put our contests on her Face Book page.

Alberto Duarte said he has sent out a lot of emails and flyers for the **Oratorical Contest**, and has promoted the contest at the First Baptist Church. He has received confirmation from the Cooper House that we have the facility reserved for Saturday, March 5. There was some discussion on whether the contest could be moved from Saturday so Seventh Day Adventist kids could participate. The main problem on doing that, however, would be that the Zone and Regional contests would still be a Saturday, and they could not advance if they won.



Alberto Duarte reported that plans for the Club's **Pancake Breakfast** are moving along on schedule. He has distributed tickets to all the Club members. Ms. Tiffany at the Hawthorne Conservatory has told him her tickets are selling well. The Pancake Breakfast will be held on **Saturday, February 6**, at the Cooper House from 7:30 to 11:30 a. m. Alberto reported that Club members have two options on how to return the money from their ticket sales (or not). You can write a tax-deductible check directly to the Hawthorne Conservatory, or you can give cash or a check to Al Renz and he will write a check to the Conservatory for the sum given him.

## Dime-A-Day

Tom Casteel announced that he still needs 3 more contributions for the OI Foundation's **Dime-A-Day program**. He would like to meet his pledge of ten before traveling to the District Meeting this weekend. The cost is \$36.50 which goes to help programs sponsored by Optimist International. You will receive a nice pin for your lapel for your contribution as well as the satisfaction of helping kids.



Foundation President Alberto Duarte reported that the **Foundation's assets** as of yesterday were \$756,846.83 in our account at Regions Bank, plus a CD with First Commercial. He also reported that the Market is on a roller coaster, but our funds are not doing too badly. The Foundation Board will have their quarterly meeting with Regions Bank today.

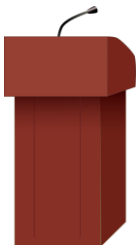


George McDonough, chairman of the **Pecan Sale**, said he believes he has received nearly all of the fund raiser income. To the best he can determine there is only one Club member who has not paid for his allotment of pecans. **If you haven't paid for your pecans, send your check to George ASAP!**

## New Business

There was no new business to come to the floor. Tom Casteel announced that he and President Al had taped a show for Kenny Anderson's *Impact TV* program. Tom and Al were able to promote our programs for kids on the show, especially the Oratorical and Essay Contests. The program will be shown on both WOW! and Comcast Cable TV's Community Access Channel in the near future.

## President's Minute



President Al said there is still time for anyone wanting to avoid the snow and go with him and Tom to Orange Beach for the District Meeting. Tom said they will be leaving at 10 a. m. on Friday

## Closing

Richie Myers led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**“Never believe that a few caring people can’t change the world. For, indeed, that’s all who ever have.**

*~Margaret Mead*

## CALENDAR

- 1/28      Thursday 11:45 am      Mullin’s Restaurant  
**Pam Clagens –  
Development Director, HEALS, Inc.**
- 2/2      Tuesday 4:00 pm  
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.  
**Board Meeting**
- 2/4      Thursday 6:00 pm      Mullin’s Restaurant  
**TBD – Jim Berry**
- 2/11      Thursday 11:45 am      Mullin’s Restaurant  
**TBD – Jim Berry**
- 2/18      Thursday 11:45 am  
Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food –  
(Jim Berry)**
- 2/25      Thursday 11:45 am      Mullin’s Restaurant  
**TBD – Jim Berry**

## 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:**