



PRESIDENT

Alfred G. Adams

502-541-6469

alfredg.adams@gmail.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Vastell Williams

256-886-1344

VHV.Williams@yahoo.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Roe

256-883-8950

j_m_roe@yahoo.com

SECRETARY TREASURER

Al Renz

256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

Club meets

1st Thursday

At 6:00 pm

2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

88 Buffet

Opti - Topics

Today's Meeting at 88 Buffet Restaurant

Twelve Club members attended our meeting at the 88 Buffet today. We also had in attendance two guests and a new member. Our guests were Christian Sumlin and Lynnece Henry from UAH. Christian and Lynnece were judges in last our Club's Oratorical Contest last Saturday.

Our new member is Charlene Higgins. She's a member (along with some others in our Club) of President Al Adams' church. Al said with just a few more from his church he could start his own "mafia" to compete with the Harvest mafia in Club membership. Charlene has two degrees but is a stay-at-home mom with her two children. Al said they are both very bright and talented.

Serendipity occurrence: Charlene was sitting next to Lynnece Henry at today's meeting, and learned that Lynnece would give violin lessons to one of her children whose teacher had recently moved.

Optimist Family News

We've been missing member **Marilyn King-Jordan** at our meetings, and we learned today that she has been in Birmingham undergoing eye surgery. She said she had suffered a perforated cornea and had undergone three surgeries in less than 7 days.

It was good to see **Duane Plank** with us today. He was able to get from the parking lot into 88 Buffet and to navigate the several buffet tables on his own. He is still in therapy, now seeing a chiropractor for rehabbing his hip.

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

DIRECTORS

2 YEAR

Rebecca Billings

256-426-3999

rebecca.billings@gmail.com

Joyce Brown

478-954-5583

jrue48.brown@gmail.com

Clyde Nevins

256-881-8215

clyde.nevins@Juno.com

1 YEAR

Tom Casteel

256-715-8772

tom@leetsac.net

Richie Myers

256-658-6343

rickfish19@gmail.com

Gay Pepper

256-288-4321

gaypepper@fcb-hsv.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Clyde Nevins

256-881-8215

clyde.nevins@Juno.com

Announcements



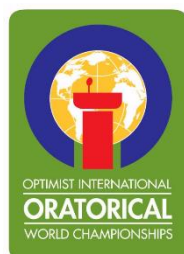
Check in your closet where you keep your **Optimist apron** and see if it's there. After the Oratorical Contest last Saturday, I took home an Optimist apron that was left at the Cooper House after the Pancake Breakfast. I checked in my closet, and *my* apron is there. Check in your closet, and if your apron is missing, let me know.



Essay Contest Chairman George McDonough announced the **winners** of the Club's recent Essay Contest. They are:

- ❖ First Place: Najiere' Williams
(daughter of Vastell Williams)
- ❖ Second Place: Bikhari Reyes
- ❖ Third Place: Khale' Reyes.

Bikhari (male) and Khale' (female) are siblings, and George said they must be the first siblings to win medals in our contest. They will be presented their awards at our upcoming Youth Appreciation Banquet.



Oratorical Contest winners were Devan Davis (male) from Lee High School, and Bradliegh Herwig (female) from James Clemens High School. They, along with the other winners, were given their awards at the conclusion of the contest.

Contest Chairman Alberto Duarte said neither of our Club's winners would be able to compete at the Zone Contest if the current dates for the contest are kept. Since there are so few contestants who participated in our Zone, Alberto is requesting that all of the Zone participants be automatically entered into the District Regional Contest.



President Al said he would be attending the City Council meeting this evening to present the Club's award to the Star99/CAFY Young Citizen of the Month. We give a \$25 gift certificate to the winner of this award that we cosponsor.

Program



This month's Program Chairman, Alberto Duarte, introduced our speaker for today, Dr. Pavica Sheldon from UAH. Dr. Sheldon is a professor in the Communications Dept. at UAH. She has arranged for students from her department to judge the speakers at our Oratorical Contest for the past five years.

Alberto said he had invited the two winners of our Oratorical Contest to attend today, but neither was able to attend today nor anytime this month. It's obviously a busy time for young people, especially those with talent and initiative.

Dr. Sheldon is from Croatia. She came to the U. S. in 2004 to pursue a higher education in communications. She subsequently received her PhD from LSU in 2010. After receiving her doctor's degree, she accepted a position at UAH where she has been since then. Besides teaching classes in Public Speaking, Social Media, and Media, she has published 30 journal articles and has written a book on Social Media.

Dr. Sheldon reported that the UAH Communications Department is thriving. The department has an enthusiastic and energetic head who has grown the department during his years of leadership. The department now has about 100 students, and is the second-most popular major in the school. Also, UAH will initiate a Masters Degree program in Communications this fall.

Dr. Sheldon said that social media is gaining more and more popularity in the younger generation, and that the continual introduction of new social media sites makes teaching it a challenge. The course syllabus must be changed each year to cover the "hot" social media sites. As of today, most students use Instagram and Snapchat in lieu of Facebook, and Twitter "is almost dead."

In response to a request from Marilyn King-Jordan, Dr. Sheldon said she would be happy to come to a future Club meeting and give an overview of the current social media sites, and the basics on how to get started in them.

Closing

President Al gave our speaker and the UAH student judges each a tile with the Optimist Creed on it. Dr. Sheldon drew for the attendance award as follows: Matt Clarke, Willie Brunetti, and Bob Martin missed out. Jesse Lang's name was drawn fourth and Jesse took home (half) the money.

Dr. Bill Clarke led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.
Note: we actually did quite well in reciting our creed without our banner today.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“If you can speak, you can influence. If you can influence, you can change lives.”

~Rob Brown

CALENDAR

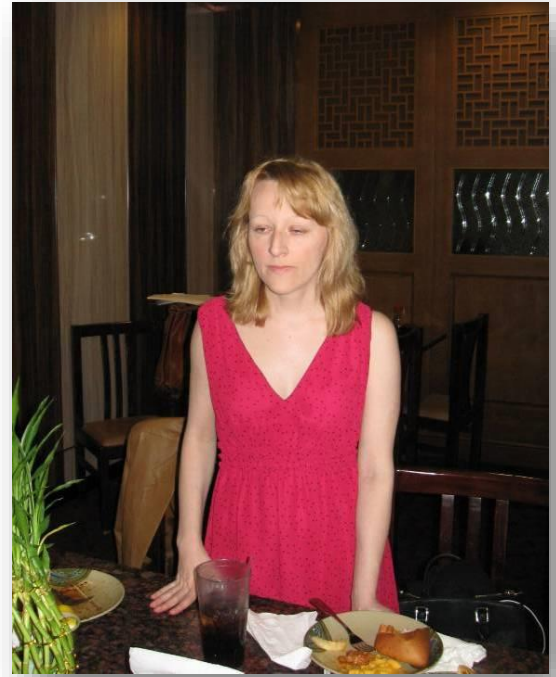
- 3/17 Thursday 11:45 am
Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Alberto Duarte)
- 3/24 Thursday 11:45 am 88 Buffet
Alberto Duarte – TBD
- 3/31 Thursday - **NO MEETING – 5th THURSDAY**



**President Al is also our “flag pole”
for the Pledge of Allegiance**



Our new member, Charlene Higgins



Our speaker, Dr. Pavica Sheldon from UAH



Richie Myers and Friend At Kite Festival



Our Club's Booth at the Kite Festival

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
P, O, Box 2230
Huntsville, AL 35804-2230

TO:

PLACE
STAMP
HERE