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Club meets

1st Thursday

At 6:00 pm

2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

88 Buffet

Opti - Topics

May Business Meeting

Fourteen Optimists assembled at the 88 Buffet at noon for our Fourth Thursday meeting. We also had three guests: Marlene Renz, wife of Al; Jack Freedman, guest of George McDonough, and Andrew Driver, a past member of our Club.

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.

Announcements



President Al Adams asked for **volunteers to help the HOPE Leadership Academy's oratorical contest** coming up early next month.

He sent an e-mail about this to all Club members recently. To repeat: **On Tuesday, June 7**, 5 volunteers are needed to coach speakers in good oratorical practices. **On Friday, June 10**, 3 volunteers are needed to judge the speakers. These both take place at Buckhorn Middle School. Please contact Al if you can help in this way.



The Club's **annual picnic** is (still) tentatively scheduled for August 20 at the Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church's pavilion in Harvest.

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

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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All Band Committee members are reminded to get your instruments from the schools and deliver them to Southeastern Music. Al Renz passed around a very nice (and expensive) thank-you card from our Outstanding Band Student winner at Liberty Middle School. He thanked our Club for the award, and promised to try to live up to the honor we had shown him.



Danielle Barnes is still seeking teens going into either 9th or 10th grades to attend a **Challenge Leadership Program** from June 13 through June 18. This program is a great way for teens to improve their leadership skills. There is a registration fee, but Danielle said scholarships are available if the fee is a problem. If you know of a teen that could benefit from this program, you can get all the details from Danielle by e-mailing her at dbarnes@leadershipsv.org.

Program



Al Renz introduced our speaker for today, Mrs. Dorothy Havens. Mrs. Havens has more than 35 years of experience, many in upper management, in sales, advertising, marketing, human resources, operations, and television news. She is married to Calvin Havens, pastor of Ford's Chapel UMC in Harvest, AL, and only last week became a first-time grandmother.

Mrs. Havens began by saying she has always believed in giving back to the community, just as Optimist Clubs do. She told how four years ago she received a call to join the Kids to Love, an organization she came to know well while working with Lee Marshall at WAAF TV. She sold her tech recycling business and undertook the task of developing KTECH, a new venture of Kids to Love designed to train students in essential technical training for today's job market.

With the help of generous donations of Breland Homes (a \$1.5 M building) and Dorothy Davidson (\$350K in electronic equipment), KTECH became a reality. KTECH developed a 15-week course that trains students to pass the Siemens Mechatronics Certification. The KTECH program also teaches students “soft” skills, like public speaking, resume writing, integrity, business dress, work attendance, etc. The program has been able to make articulation agreements with both Motlow (TN) and Calhoun (AL) colleges, whereby KTECH students also get college credit for their studies.

Enrolling students must have a high school diploma or a GED and be good in math. The tuition is \$3,500, but scholarships are available. An application for students is on the Kids to Love web site, www.kidstolove.org.

The first class of five students, ages 18 to 40 and including one woman, just graduated. These five graduates all received their Siemens certifications, and all landed good jobs immediately.

Besides the KTECH, program, Kids to Love has several other programs.

Their newest program is “The Davidson Farm for Teenage Girls.” A large group home, formerly used to house Downs Syndrome kids, became available. Mrs. Dorothy Davidson again generously donated the funds to buy this home (near Ardmore, TN).

Other programs by Kids to Love include Christmas gifts to foster kids (1070 gifted last year); school supplies for kids (over 5,000 last year); *Stop Meth*, a program that saves kids from homes where meth is known to be used.

Mrs. Havens ended her program by saying that volunteers are needed and welcomed. For example, mentors and math tutors are needed for the KTECH program. There is a volunteer application on the web site. Donations for school supplies are already being taken for next school year.

Closing

President Al Adams gave Mrs. Havens a tile with the Optimist Creed on it, and asked her to draw for today’s attendance prize. Tom Casteel’s name was the first one drawn, and he took home (half) the money. President Al asked Tom to lead the Club in the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Face trouble with courage, disappointment with cheerfulness, and triumph with humility.

~ Thomas S. Monson

PHOTOS



Mrs. Dorothy Havens, our speaker from Kids to Love

CALENDAR

- 6/2 Thursday **6:00 pm** 88 Buffet
Linda Brouwer – Free to Teach
- 6/7 Tuesday **4:00 pm**
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 6/9 Thursday **11:45 am** 88 Buffet
Blake Dorning – Sheriff
- 6/16 Thursday **11:45 am**
Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Duane Plank)
- 6/23 Thursday **11:45 am** 88 Buffet
Dr. Beth Cape – Director of Children’s Ministries
Whitesburg Baptist Church
- 6/30 Thursday - **NO MEETING - 5th Thurday**
- 7/5 Tuesday **4:00 pm**
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 7/7 Thursday **6:00 pm** 88 Buffet
TBD – Jim Roe
- 7/14 Thursday **11:45 am** 88 Buffet
TBD – Jim Roe
- 7/21 Thursday **11:45 am**
Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Jim Roe)
- 7/28 Thursday **11:45 am** 88 Buffet
TBD – Jim Roe

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



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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO: