



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

July – 2nd Noon Meeting

Seven Optimists assembled at the 88 Buffet today for our regularly scheduled meeting. It has to be the lowest attendance ever at a meeting of our Club. Perhaps it was due to the rainy weather. We had one guest, Nell Berry, wife of Jim Berry.

Opening

In the absence of both President Al Adams and Vice President Vastell Williams, Jim Roe presided at our meeting today. He called on Clyde Nevins to bring the opening prayer and to lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Optimist Family News



It was good to see **Fabiani Duarte** at our meeting today (one of the seven). He reported he had just completed two grueling days of taking **the Bar Exam** in Montgomery, Alabama. I asked him how many took the exam and he replied, “1,000.” That’s not a typo—one thousand (!) aspiring attorneys took the two-day exam consisting of both essay and multiple choice questions.

**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

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.co

Announcements



Don't forget! Our Club will have a "resource information booth" at the **Community Awareness for Youth** event **this Saturday, July 30, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm** at the Jaycee Building. In addition to community resource information booths, there will be demonstrations, contests, give away items, food, music speakers and the Madison County's Got Talent Showcase.

Clyde Nevins needs some company at our table to help promote our Club's teen programs, and maybe recruit a couple of new members. Come for a couple of hours if you can. We'll be inside, so come even if it's raining.



Three Optimists remembered to bring a sack of **school supplies for Morris Elementary School** today. School starts next week, and more school supplies are needed. Try to bring them at next week's meeting. **George McDonough** will collect them and will deliver them to Morris Elementary. I think it's one of his favorite things to do in the Club.



The date for the **Club's annual picnic** has been set for September 10. As in the past couple of years, the picnic will be held at the pavilion of the Fords Chapel UMC in Harvest. The picnic will start at 12 noon and be over by 6 p. m. The picnic will have a "pot luck" menu with the Club furnishing the meat and Club members furnishing sides and deserts.



Fabiani Duarte reported that **Alberto Duarte and Al Renz** had purchased three keyboards and an electronic drum set from the Guitar Center. These will be donated to the Hawthorne Conservatory **in memory of Optimist Duane Plank**. Jim Berry volunteered his pickup truck to get the items transported to the Conservancy.

Program



Our speaker for today was **Sarah Savage**, President and CEO of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County. Ms. Savage has been a resident of Huntsville for 24 years, and

has been associated with Leadership for 18 years. She related how she had been in a Junior Optimist in Dothan in her teen years, and also that she had spoken to our Club twice in years past.

Ms. Savage began by giving an overview of the Leadership program in Huntsville. It's one of 55 such programs in Alabama, and one of some 2,000 across the U. S. While generally aimed at young up-and-coming young people, the program also has programs for those retired, or about to be retired who have an interest in getting more engaged in our community. Programs vary in length from two days to 10 months, with tuitions running from \$500 to \$4,500. From 150 to 200 people typically participate in these programs annually in Huntsville.

One interesting demographic brought out by Ms. Savage is that Huntsville is now the second largest metropolitan area in Alabama, having recently outpaced the Mobile area. Furthermore, Huntsville is predicted to be the *largest* metropolitan area in Alabama in just 15 short years. To manage this growth will take knowledgeable and trained leaders, and the time to begin training them for the challenges of this growth is now. That is the mission of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County. For more information on Leadership and their programs check out their web site: www.leadershiphsv.org.

Next, we were shown a short video that featured comments on the Leadership program from many of Huntsville's civic, professional, education and human services leaders. Following the video, Ms. Savage took questions, and we had twenty minutes or so of interesting discussions on such challenges Huntsville has in mental health care, homelessness and the "working poor."

Closing

Vice President Roe gave our speaker a tile with the Optimist Creed on it. Ms. Savage drew for our minimal attendance prize, which took a while because of our low attendance today. Tom Casteel's name was finally drawn, and he took home barely enough to pay for his gasoline for the trip.

Tom Casteel led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Leaders instill in their people a hope for success and a belief in themselves. Positive leaders empower people to accomplish their goals.”

~ Unknown



Our Speaker Sarah Savage

CALENDAR

- 8/2 Tuesday **4:00 pm**
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 8/4 Thursday **6:00 pm** 88 Buffet
Fran Fluhler – Manna House
- 8/11 Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Angela Walker – Huntsville Community Drumline
- 8/18 Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (Tom Casteel)
- 8/25 Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Kathy Miller – United Way
- 9/1 Thursday **6:00 pm** 88 Buffet
George McDonough– TBD
- 9/6 Tuesday **4:00 pm**
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 9/8 Thursday
No Meeting – Replaced by Club Picnic
- 9/10 Saturday **2:00 to 5:00 pm**
Ford's Chapel Pavilion
Annual Club Picnic
- 9/15 Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting - Food – (George McDonough)
- 9/23 **Friday 6:00 pm** Optimist Recreation Center
Officer Installation Banquet – Governor Pam Black
- 9/29 Thursday
No Meeting – 5th Thursday

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

TO: