



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 at 88 Buffet

2nd, & 4th Thursdays

At 11:45 am

At the

**Optimist Recreational
Center**

Opti - Topics

August – Business Meeting



Fifteen Optimists and two guests assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center for this month's business meeting. **Tom Casteel** was our caterer today, and we enjoyed make-it-yourself taco salads (either chicken or beef) with all the trimmings, plus chocolate chip cookies and a drink assortment. Good job, Tom.

Opening



President Al Adams called the meeting to order. He asked Alberto Duarte to bring the opening prayer, and President Al led us all in the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced our two guests: **Jerry Shoemaker**, a former member (and president) of our Club, and **Nell Berry**, wife of Jim Berry.

Optimist Family News

I called **Buddy Beck** Wednesday about the condition of Buddy's wife, Una. Buddy told me that Una is back home, having had a stent placed in one artery and a heart valve replaced (they replace the valve with a cow's heart valve, I'm told).

If you've missed **Bill Clarke** recently, he's spending 5 weeks with his daughter in Oregon. Matt Clarke was there for two of those weeks, but is now back home taking care of some obligations.

**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



President Al read a very touching thank-you note from the faculty of Morris Elementary School. **George McDonough** had recently delivered the school supplies that were collected to them. Thanks to all of you who contributed to this. The teachers were very appreciative of our continued support to their school, and wrote that these supplies “Made our first week of school.” George reported that the school will need boxes of Kleenex when the cold and flu season gets here.



Make your plans to attend the Club's **annual picnic** which is scheduled at the Ford's Chapel UMC in Harvest on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Bring a side dish or desert; the Club will provide pulled pork, fried chicken, baked chicken, drinks, and all the utensils and dishes for the picnic. Al Renz said he needs a couple of volunteers to come a little early to wipe down the chairs (they'll be out of storage and dusty). And SIGN UP if you plan to attend.



The **Installation Banquet** for next year's incoming officers will be on **Friday, Sept 23**. Note that the banquet is not on our traditional Thursday night. The banquet was moved by one day so that the Alabama-Mississippi District Governor, Pam Black, could be here to officiate at the installation. A sign-up sheet will be circulated for this event beginning next week.

Treasurer's Report



Treasurer **Al Renz** distributed the **financial report** for the Club as of July 31, 2016 (this report covers the first 10 months of our fiscal year). For this period, the Club had a net income of about \$2,300, mostly from our Pecan Sale. Youth Activities, especially the Band Instrument Program were the largest expenses. Al said the Foundation had been “very prompt” in reimbursing the Club for these expenses.

The Duane Plank Memorial expense was \$2,049.02, and was paid by the Foundation. A formal presentation of the four musical instruments bought by these funds for the Hawthorne Conservatory is in the works.

When the receivables from the Foundation and the receivables for meals is added, **the Club's Potential Cash Position is \$11,490.88**. There are a few outstanding meal charges that haven't been paid. The bank balance at the end of July was \$4,892.55.

Committee Reports



Membership Committee Chairman Tom Casteel urged everyone to invite prospective new members to our Club soon. **We need 4 new members by September 30 to be an Honor Club.** There is currently a one-half price special on membership for new members that are teachers, and new members that are under age 30.

President Al remarked that he doesn't want his term as president to end with our Club not being an Honor Club.

Below are the several reports on the status of starting **JOI Clubs** for the new school year.



- Alberto Duarte reported that **Grace Lutheran Middle School** JOI Club will have its officers installed on September 2. Our Club will supply refreshments, and YOU are invited to attend.
- Alberto also reported that **Grace Lutheran High School** has formed a new JOI Club. It will elect officers in September.
- **Randolph's JOI Club**, the “ROC,” has formed and elected officers. They will notify Alberto next week on the scheduled date for their installation.
- Al Adams reported that he is highly optimistic (what else?) that a JOI Club can be formed at **Chapman Middle School**. Al said he doesn't have time

to be the club's contact, and he needs a Club member, preferably a female, to step up to work with the new principal (a lady) to form the JOI Club there.

- There is a good chance that a JOI club can be started at **New Century Middle School**, too. Charlene Higgins is working with them.



Foundation Chairman Alberto Duarte gave what he characterized as a "very good" **Foundation Report**. The Foundation's account at Regions as of August 17, 2016, was valued at \$866,220.12. This amount is after all of the reimbursements to the Club have been made. In addition, the Foundation's account at Synovus (an arm of First Commercial bank) was valued at \$150,116.30.



Pecan Sale Chairman George McDonough reported that he will soon pass around a sign-up sheet for ordering pecans. He is encouraging members to have pre-sale orders in hand. He plans to have the pecans delivered well before the Thanksgiving holiday.



Band Instrument Committee Chairman, Tom Casteel, reported that the Club's band instruments available for lending are almost entirely gone. As of this meeting, only 4 flutes and 3 bell kits are in our storage room. Tom is asking the Club's Foundation for \$7,000 to fund the buying of additional instruments. Several schools that have received instruments in past years have been left wanting this year.

YOU can help the Club acquire more band instruments. The Club's Facebook page has a section called LINK (Lonely Instruments Needing Kids). Log on to this site and "like" this section. This is a simple contribution that can help advertise this need. I just did it, and it was a piece of cake. The url is:

<https://www.facebook.com/HuntsvilleOptimistClub>.

New Business



President Al Adams asked Clyde Nevins to distribute a **Club Meeting Survey form** to the attendees. Clyde reported that the Board of Directors is gathering data to see if the Club's meeting schedule needs to be adjusted as well as where the meetings might best be held. The Board needs your input. If you weren't at the meeting, please fill out the attached form and return it to Clyde at:

clyde.nevins@juno.com by next Thursday.

There has been some contact with HEALS about our Club making a major financial contribution towards a project that would have “Optimist Club of Huntsville” recognized permanently on it. Richie Myers and Al Renz are working with HEALS to pin down the details.

Old Business

Alberto Duarte asked if the Board had taken up his request for increasing the cash prizes for the Club’s **Oratorical Contest**. President Al said that they hadn’t but he would put it on the agenda for the October Board Meeting.

Closing

Jim Roe led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“There are five important things for living a successful and fulfilling life: never stop dreaming, never stop believing, never give up, never stop trying, and never stop learning.”

~ Roy Bennett



Website – hsvoptimists.org

CALENDAR

- 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
- 10/4 Tuesday **4:00 pm**
1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting
- 10/6 Thursday **6:00 pm** 88 Buffet
TBD– TBD
- 10/13 Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
TBD – TBD

Club Meeting Survey

Dear Optimists

To aid your Board of Directors in deciding on how to improve attendance at our Club meetings, please complete the survey below.

1. The things that are most important to me in attending Club meetings are (rank in order of importance):

- ☐ The cost of the meals
- ☐ The ease of getting to the meeting site
- ☐ The closeness of parking to the meeting room
- ☐ The length of the meetings
- ☐ The quality or relevance of the scheduled program
- ☐ The number of meetings each month (see item 2, below)
- ☐ Other:

2. I would prefer to have:

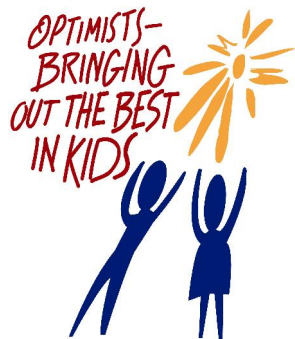
- ☐ **Four** Club meetings per month, including one business meeting
- ☐ **Three** Club meetings per month, including one business meeting
- ☐ **Two** Club meetings per month, including one business meeting

3. I would prefer *evening* meetings per month (fill in the number)

4. Special event meetings (e.g., Respect for Law, Youth Appreciation banquets) should:

- ☐ Replace the regularly scheduled meeting nearest to the date of the event regardless of the number of meetings per month
- ☐ Be added to the meeting schedule if there are two Club meetings per month

Name (optional): _____



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

TO:

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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