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PRESIDENT**

**Alfred G. Adams**

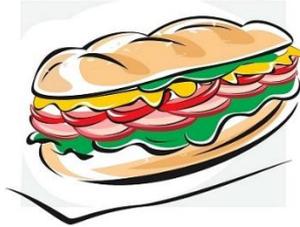
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# Opti - Topics

## May Business Meeting

Fifteen Optimists assembled at the Optimist



Recreation Center for our regularly scheduled business meeting for the month. Al Renz arranged our lunch, today, and he provide an assortment of sandwiches, an optional piece of baked

chicken, coleslaw, potato salad, and cake, plus assorted drinks.

## Opening

President Vastell Williams was running late today, so Secretary/Treasurer Al Renz opened the meeting at the scheduled time. He asked Alfred Adams to bring the opening prayer and then lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Optimist Family News



President Vastell thanked the many Optimists who turned out for the **memorial service for Dr. Sidney Sandridge** last week. He reported that

Club members had turned out in numbers and were seated in a special section for the service.

**Club meets**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Thursday**  
**At 6:00 p.m. at Blue**  
**Plate Café**

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays**  
**At 11:45 a.m.**  
**Optimist Recreational**  
**Center**

**DIRECTORS**  
**2 YEAR**

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**1 YEAR**

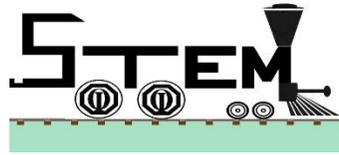
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Clyde Nevins passed around a plaque (see photo section) that was awarded to our Club by the Merianville Middle School's Robotics Raptors last week. The school held a robotics open house to honor the several sponsors. The open house included demonstration of their competition robots, a display of the awards won, refreshments, and a PowerPoint slide show of their robotics team trip to the World Competition



Our **Oratorical Contest** girl winner, Christine Thompson, who competed and won at the Regional Competition will give her scholarship-winning speech at our Club meeting on May 25. Khale' Reyes, winner of our **Essay Contest**, and Bikhart Reyes, second place winner, will read their essays at the meeting, also.



Eureka Battie announced that she will be presenting the Club's award to the **Young Citizen of the Month** at the City Council meeting on May 25. She asked for some additional Club members to show up for the ceremony to lend support. Show up at Council chamber at City Hall at 5:45 p. m. if you'd like to help out.



Alfted Adams, Zone Vice President, announced that the **Zone picnic at Ft. Payne had been cancelled** due to lack of interest from other Clubs in the Zone. Instead, Alfred is planning a Club Visit to the June 7 Optimist Club meeting. He needs at least four from our Club to go for us to garner the A & A points for the visit. Several volunteered at the meeting.

## Treasurer's Report



Treasurer Al Renz distributed his financial report for the 7 months ending April 30, 2017. He remarked there was “not a whole lot of difference” from the previous month, with the net gain (revenue less expenses) for the month up a mere \$110 from the end of March. New expenses for Youth Activities (over and above those for the normal Band Instrument program) were \$100 for our sponsorship of a Huntsville entry into the Optimist State Golf tournament, and \$75 for three, \$25 gift-cards for the monthly Young Citizen of the Month award. The Club’s bank balance at the end of April was \$7,100.24, and with the receivables from the foundation and outstanding meals, the Club has a Potential Cash Position of \$13,171.60.

## Committee Reports



**Band Committee** members Tom Casteel, Clyde Nevins, Al Renz, Bill Clarke and Alfred Adams reported on the band concerts they had attended recently. Each one had glowing reports about the skills of the students as displayed in the pieces performed at the concerts. Also, they reported on the gratitude expressed to them from some of the parents, teachers and students for allowing needy students to take part in band programs.



Eureka Battie reported that she is still pursuing getting **JOI Clubs** at three schools. Still in work are:

- *Columbia High School* still needs 8 more students to sign up for starting a JOI Club. They will work through the summer months to recruit new members so a JOI club can begin in August.
- *Jemison High School's* JOI Club had a setback when the advisor moved from the school. Eureka Battie has not given up on having a JOI Club at the school next fall.
- *Chapman Middle School* now has a volunteer teacher to sponsor a JOI Club there. Al Adams and Eureka Battie will work with the teacher to get a running start next August.

## New Business

Tom Casteel presented a proposed **revision to the Club's Policy and Procedure Manual**. The revision had been reviewed and approved by the Club's Board of Directors early this month. The new policy would pass on the reduction in OI membership dues (\$40 per year) for the occasional special incentive programs by OI.

**Motion:** Jim Berry moved that the proposed revision be approved. Alfred Adams seconded the motion. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Tom Casteel said he would soon be issuing a new revision of the entire Policy and Procedures Manual to all Club members.

Gay Pepper reminded the Club that it has been our policy to honor Optimists who have deceased with a **memorial gift** in the amount of \$100 for each year they served in the Club. Dr. Sidney Sandridge had been a loyal member for 15 years. In discussion, it was reported that Dr. Sandridge's family had requested donations to the Fords Chapel United Methodist Church Benevolent Fund in lieu of flowers.

**Motion:** Tom Casteel moved that the Club request the Optimist Foundation to donate \$1,500 to the Fords Chapel United Methodist Church Benevolent Fund in memory of Dr. Sidney Sandridge. Gay Pepper seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## Huntsville Optimist Foundation Report



**Foundation President** Alberto Duarte reported on the assets of the Foundation as of May 17, 2017. Assets managed by Regions are now valued at \$888,708.00. Assets managed by Synovus are valued at \$156,388.37. The total Foundation assets are now \$1,045,096.37. This is an increase over last month despite a significant drop in the market on May 17.

## Closing

President Vastell led the Club in reciting the Optimist Creed to close the meeting.

*Clyde Nevins*

## Optimistic Quote of the Week

**“There are some real similarities between the game of life and the game of baseball. For instance – If you are going to be a ball player, you must be in love with the game. You can’t be much of a ball player unless you love the game with all your heart. Oh, you may play a little ball – you may even make the team; but you’re never going to fulfill your potential as a ball player unless you are in love with the game**

**And you know, the same is true in the game of life. You’ve got to be in love with life if you are going to live life effectively. Yes, I know there are those days when the ground in front of you is rough and the ball takes the wrong hop, when the sun is in your eyes and the wind blows the wrong way – But I know too, that there are those days when the sky is blue and the wind is right; and the ball just seems to drop into the glove. And you have to decide which day you want to emphasize. If you are going to live life effectively you must be in love with life.”**

*~ Dr. Sidney E. Sandridge*

## CALENDAR

- 5/18      Thursday 11:45 am      Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting – Food, Al Renz –**
- 5/25      Thursday 11:45 am      Optimist Recreation Center  
**Cristine Thompson – District Oratorical Contest Winner (Speech)**  
**Khale’ Reyes – Club 1<sup>st</sup> Place Essay Winner (Will Read Essay)**  
**Bikhari Reyes – Club 2nd Place Essay Winner (Will Read Essay)**
- 6/1      Thursday 6:00 pm      Blue Plate Cafe  
**TBD - Vastell Williams**
- 6/6      Tuesday 4:00 pm      1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.  
**Board Meeting**
- 6/15      Thursday 11:45 am      Optimist Recreation Center  
**Business Meeting - Food – (Vastell Williams)**

# PHOTOS



THANK YOU  
OPTIMIST CLUB OF HUNTSVILLE  
FOR  
GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING  
THE  
MERIDIANVILLE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
ROBOTIC RAPTORS TEAM  
2016-2017

**Plaque presented to the Optimist Club of Huntsville for our support of the Meridianville Middle School Robotic Team**

## 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.

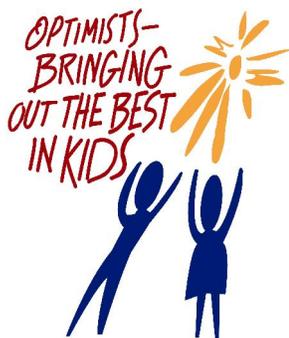
**T**o forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**TO:**