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Opti - Topics

May 2nd Regular Meeting



Fourteen Optimists and three guests assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center for our regular fourth Thursday meeting of the month.

Eureka and Alexis Battie brought our lunch today—an assortment of Steak-Out sandwiches (with fixin's), lemon and/or chocolate cake plus iced tea.

Our guests today were:

- **Alexis Battie**, daughter of Club First Vice President Eureka Battie
- **Mrs. Lyscelle Reyes**, mother of our two Essay Contest winners
- **Khai Reyes**, sibling of our two Essay Contest winners

Opening

First Vice President, Eureka Battie, opened the meeting and welcomed our guests and speakers to our meeting. She called on Rev. Jim Berry to bring the opening prayer and lead us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Optimist Family News



Al Renz reported that he, Jim Roe, Bob Martin and Buddy Beck will present the Club's check for \$1,500 to the Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church's Benevolence Fund this coming Sunday in **memory of Dr. Sidney Sandridge**.

Club meets
1st Thursday
At 6:00 p.m. at Blue
Plate Café

3rd & 4th Thursdays
At 11:45 a.m.
Optimist Recreational
Center

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Alberto Duarte reported that **Fabiani Duarte** had graduated from Mercer Seminary, and is now on the way to become a member of the Air Force's Judge Advocate General Corps. He has passed his physical, and will begin the required basic training in Montgomery beginning June 26.



Tom Casteel reported that Club member **Bob Hirschbuehler** underwent surgery a couple of weeks ago. He is now recovering at home, but is having problems with blood clots. Tom is preparing one of his special pasta dishes to take to the family this weekend.

Announcements



Eureka Battie announced that she will be presenting the Club's award to the **Young Citizen of the Month** at the City Council this evening (Thursday). She invited 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. It will only take about 10 minutes of your time.



Zone Vice President Alfred Adams will be travelling to Fort Payne for an Optimist Club meeting on **Wednesday, June 7**. If four of our club members attend, we will get A & A points for **Club Visitation**. He said he has four signed up, but if you'd like to go, let Al know. They will leave from the ORC about 10 o'clock in the morning.



Jim Roe reported that Athens State University hopes to set up a **scholarship in the memory of Dr. Sidney Sandridge**. To do so, the university must raise a minimum of \$15,000 in the next few months. If you'd like to contribute to this cause, contact Jim for information.

Program

Our program for today's meeting featured three youths who excelled in our Oratorical and Essay Contests this year. See the Photo Section for pictures of these outstanding young people

Al Renz introduced our first speaker, **Christine Thompson**, a junior at Westminster Christian Academy. Christine not only won our local contest, but went on to win the regional and district contests. For the latter, she won first prize and a university scholarship of \$2,500. Christine did a masterful job of giving her speech, without notes, on the topic, "What the World Gains from Optimism." Following her speech, Vice President Eureka gave her one of our speaker gifts, an Optimist Creed tile.

Alfred Adams introduced the second place winner for our Club's Essay Contest, **Bikhare Reyes**. Bikhare read his essay from its text on his smart phone. The subject was: "Chasing Optimism in the Face of Challenges." The theme of his essay was, in general, how Black people had used optimism to overcome the challenges of slavery and discrimination. He, too, was awarded an Optimist tile by VP Eureka. In addition, Alfred Adams gave Bikhare a framed Essay Certificate Award.

Our last speaker for the day was **Khalé Reyes**. She also read from her first prize winning essay on the subject of "Chasing Optimism in the Face of Challenges." Khalé had some difficulty in bringing up her essay text on her cell phone (apparently due to the signal strength), but finally was able to read it. The general theme of her essay was how optimism can overcome physical difficulties. She, too, received an Optimist tile and an Essay Certificate.

Closing

One of our guests, Khai Reyes, drew for our attendance prize. **Jesse Lang won** on the first drawing.

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

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“If you don’t like something, change it. If you can’t change it, change your attitude.

~ Maya Angelou

CALENDAR

- 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)
- 6/22 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center
TBD - Vastell Williams



Website: hsvoptimists.org

Photos



Christine Thompson District Oratorical Contest Winner



Bikhare Reyes – Club 2nd Place Essay Winner



Khalé Reyes Reads her Club 1st Place Speech



Club Members with the Three Young Speakers.

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.

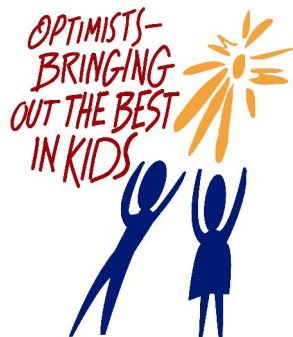
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

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: