



PRESIDENT

Eureka Battie

256- 653-0457

Eureka@Takerstransportation.com

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Denise Watson

256-658-8747

mytrocar5@hotmail.com

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Kathy Anderson

256-679-9704

bamasax80@gmail.com

SECRETARY TREASURER

Al Renz

256-772-7929

optimist3480@aol.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Vastell Williams

256-886-1344

VHV.Williams@yahoo.com

Website:
hsvoptimists.org

Opti - Topics

Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville
Volume 72, Number 6 – DEC 21, 2017

December Business Meeting



Sixteen Optimists assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center for our regularly scheduled business meeting for the month. Jim Roe was our caterer today, and we enjoyed either sliced turkey or barbeque pork sandwiches with sides of baked beans, coleslaw and potato salad. Al Renz also brought an assortment of Christmas cookies and cupcakes to finish off our lunch. We had two guests today: Christine Thompson, the young lady who won the District Oratorical Contest this year, and Linda Presley, a former Optimist with the Noon Club.

Opening

President Eureka Battie welcomed everyone to the Club's monthly business meeting, and had our guests and a new member introduced. **Our new member is Domnique Penny.** Domnique is the Parent Coordinator/Advisor at the Martin Luther King Elementary School.

President Eureka asked Clyde Nevins to bring the opening prayer and lead the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements



Alfred Adams announced that the next Alabama/Mississippi **District Meeting** will be in Hattiesburg, MS, **on January 19-21.** President Eureka said she "would love for several members to attend.

Club meets
1st Thursday
At 6:00 p.m. at
Huntsville Country
Club

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

DIRECTORS
2 YEAR

Alfred G. Adams
502-541-6469
alfredg.adams@gmail.com

Matt Clarke
256-828-3652
clarke.matthew.w@gmail.com

Bob Hirschbuehler
256-880-3120
cosveg0133@msn.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.com

It's a great opportunity to see what other Clubs in our District are doing.



President Eureka announced that volunteers are needed to clean and **organize the Club's closet** at the ORC on Saturday, Jan. 13 at 10 a. m. There's a lot of stuff that needs disposed of in the closet, including a file cabinet. Tom Casteel said the file cabinet is in good condition, and is available to anyone who needs it. Call Tom if you're interested.



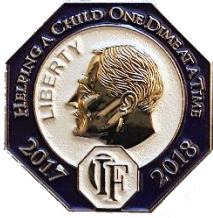
President Eureka announced that there will be a **new member orientation in January**. It will be a one-hour session to introduce our new members to the operation and projects of our Club. The current thinking is to hold the orientation on a Saturday morning at the ORC, but it has yet to be scheduled with the facility.



President Eureka announced that the Club is sending **Thank-You cards** to the Huntsville Country Club and to Southeastern Music in recognition of their willing support to our Club. She passed around the two cards for everyone at the meeting to sign, and she will either mail them or hand-deliver them this week.



If you missed getting a **group photo from the Club's Christmas party** at the Huntsville Country Club, there are a couple of sources. Eureka Battie has some extra hard copies (which she distributed at the meeting) and Tom Casteel can send you one that he took by e-mail. Just call or e-mail either of them.



Tom Casteel needs two more Optimists to sign up for the **Dime-A-Day Program** sponsored by the Optimist International Foundation. The OIF is the non-profit arm of OI which provides the funds for the scholarships and other prizes for contests sponsored by OI. Your check for \$36.50, made out to "OIF" with "Dime-A-Day" in the memo line, is tax deductible. Besides the satisfaction of helping the OI Foundation, you will get a handsome lapel pin.

Treasurer's Report



Treasurer Al Renz distributed his financial report for the month ending November 30, 2017. Al said there was not much action during the month. Highlights from his report were:

- The revenue for the month was about \$2,100 of which \$900 was from dues and \$1,200 from the pecan sale. There was \$600 received for meal reimbursement. The Club did not receive the scheduled payment (and back payments) due from

Jeff Klimek.

- Expenses for the month were about \$700, resulting in a net gain of about \$1,400.
- Expenditures for Youth Activities and Community Service included \$2,970 for the Band Instrument Program and \$1,508 for chartering new JOI Clubs and providing their officer installation ceremony treats.
- The Club's bank balance at the end of the month was \$11,715.27. With outstanding receivables, the Club has a Potential Cash Position of \$15,116.57.

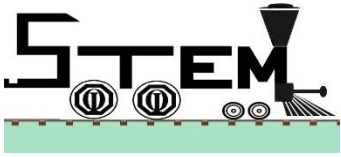
Committee Reports



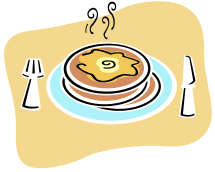
Pecan Sale Chairman Alfred Adams reported "I don't have any more pecans." He also reported that there were still 3 Club members that have not paid for their pecans. He asked Treasurer Al Renz to add the delinquent amount to their next dues statements.

Alfred also reported that Tom Casteel was the top salesman for pecans, having sold 56 bags.

Al Renz said that with the receipts collected so far, this year's pecan sale broke the record for bringing in the most money to the Club.



Vastell Williams reported for **STEM Grant Committee** Chairman Tom Rumph. He said that letters inviting grant requests had been mailed to many of the city's schools. The deadline set for receiving the grant requests has been set as January 19, 2018, and two grant request forms have already been received. He also announced that Rumph and Associates are adding \$1,000 to the Club's budgeted amount of \$10,000 for the grants.



Pancake Breakfast Chairman Alberto Duarte was absent, today, but Vastell Williams filled in for him to pass out each Club member's allotment of 10 tickets to be sold for the event. The breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 4, from 7:30 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. at the Cooper House.

Huntsville Optimist Foundation Report



Foundation President Alberto Duarte was absent today, so Foundation Board member Clyde Nevins reported for him. As of December 21, Foundation assets managed by Regions are valued at \$937,400. Assets managed by Synovus are valued at \$168,471. The sum of these, \$1,105,872, is the highest it has ever been according to Treasurer Al Renz.

Zone Update

President Eureka reported she had attended a Zone meeting on December 5. District Vice President Tom Howell announced he was considering revamping the Respect for Law Banquet format. He also reminded all Zone Clubs to get their paperwork in for the Oratorical Contest and Essay Contest.

Closing



President Eureka had arranged a special presentation to close today's meeting. She had invited PEARLS Sponsor Ms. Vicki Moore and the young ladies who will be the recipients of the gifts donated to them for furnishing their dorm rooms at college. Each of the young ladies introduced herself and announced the college of her choice and her anticipated major. Gifts collected by the Club were arranged on a table in the rear of the room, and were boxed up and delivered to the girls at the end of the meeting. One of the PEARLS, by the way was Alexis Battie, President Eureka's daughter.

The young ladies were encouraged to enter our Oratorical and Essay Contests, and to encourage their boyfriends to, also. Our guest, Christine Thompson, took time after the meeting to give them tips that would help them prepare and deliver their speeches.

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

Clyde Nevins

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmastime.”

~ Laura Ingalls Wilder

CALENDAR

12/28 Thursday **NO MEETING CHRISTMAS**



1/4 Thursday 6:00 pm Huntsville Country Club

Richie Myers- TBD

1/8 Tuesday 4:00 pm 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.

Board Meeting

1/18 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Business Meeting - Food – (Jim Roe)

1/25 Thursday 11:45 am Optimist Recreation Center

Richie Myers- TBD

Photos = Photos - Photos



Ms. Vicki Moore and the PEARL Young Ladies.



The Supplies the Club Members Donated for the PEARL's Home Sweet Dorm Project.



Huntsville Optimist Club
710 Versailles Drive
Huntsville, AL 35803-1728

TO:



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