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Opti - Topics

**Official Newsletter of the Optimist Club of Huntsville
Volume 73, Number 4 – December 13, 2018**

December Business Meeting



Eighteen Optimists and two guests assembled at the Optimist Recreation Center today for the Club's December business meeting. Bob Hirschbuehler catered the food by Gracie's. Vegan spaghetti, chicken alfredo, baked spaghetti, lasagna, salads, dressings, sweet tea, water, rolls, vegan rolls. Dessert, brownies & vegan cupcakes.

Opening

President Eureka opened the meeting. Tom Casteel blessed the meal and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our Visitors

Al Adams introduced **Debra Smith**, she is the Executive Director of Legacy Health Connections. B.A.L.M (in Gilead), her non-profit focuses on giving foster children and youth the best access to living meaningfully. For more information, you may contact her at debra@lh-c.net

Tom Casteel introduced **Helen Drake**. Works with Student Welfare & Social Services Department. With Huntsville City Schools. She is in search of volunteers, mentors, speakers etc. For more information she may be contacted at helen.drake@hsv-k12.org

Club meets
2nd Thursday
At 6:00 p.m. at
Piccadilly Cafeteria

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

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Announcements

Angel Tree update- The Optimist Club of Huntsville, supported a few kids from the Edmonton Heights Angel Tree. We sponsored a total of 6 children spending the total amount of \$300. The gifts will be presented on Saturday at the Edmonton Heights center from 2:00 pm-5:00 pm. 223 Salem Drive Huntsville Al 35810 Eureka will be there at 2:00 pm and she would like for you to come by if you can. You can just stop by to say “Hello” and introduce yourself. It’s not required for us to stay the entire time.

Tri-Star Basketball - We need to vote to see if we would like to go forward with it. Also Mr. Jesse needs a team, if we decide to keep it. If this is something you will be interested in helping with, please let Eureka or Jesse know.

Treasurer’s Report



Secretary – Treasurer Al Renz gave his report. The club is doing well with a bank balance of 12,589.16.

Committee Reports



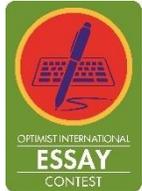
JOI Clubs- Edmonton Heights is building a JOI Club, the club will be up and running by Jan 2019. It will be a community JOI club. Joseph Lee will be the advisor, and his VISTAS will help tend to it as well.

The Lincoln academy JOI Club is on hold until the next school year.

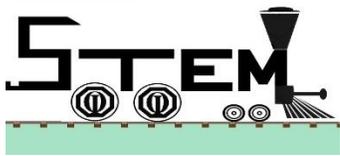
Alberto mentioned five JOI clubs are up and running. Randolph would like to provide boxes for the military. Still in the process of collecting more information.



Alberto Duarte reported on the Oratorical Contest He said that Optimist International has collected \$52,000 for the Oratorical contest to date.



The essays are due to the Club Essay Chair by February 2, 2019. Annie Sandusky needs one more judge. If you would like to be a judge, please contact her.



In the absence of Tom Rumph and Vastell Williams, President Eureka reported all the applications have been received. A total of 17 applications received. They will start the review process.

The committee wants to support every applicant which brings the overall total to \$15,620, \$620 over the 15000 budgeted. President Eureka will bring this up at the January 8th Board meeting.



Al Adams is still collecting money for pecans. Next meeting in Jan will be the deadline for all monies to be turned in. (We are looking to do a different fund raiser next year. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to share.

Evening Meeting location- Our evening meeting location will return to the Blue Plate Café on South Parkway. The construction in that area has been completed and access is much simpler. Take the Martin Road/Byrd Spring exit, go straight the Martin road intersection, turn in at the shopping center where Rosie's Cantina is located, Blue Plate will be on the right.

To go back North on the Parkway after the meeting, just return to the service road going South, down to the turn around at Byrd Spring and merge back onto the Parkway.

Growing minds of the Shoals Optimist Club Update- Our newest Club, Growing Minds Optimist Club of the Shoals is doing well. Alfred Adams, Tom Casteel, Keaires Roberson, and Jeanette Roberson attended their December 9th. They are planning a youth mentoring program.

Home Sweet Dorm project- we will be donating items to girls going to college. Viki Moore, a member will provide a list of items needed, Our member will provide items from the list. Viki did a presentation last year on the program.

Huntsville Optimist Foundation Report



Foundation President Alberto Duarte gave a report on the Foundation's investments as of the close of the market's close on December 2018. The Foundations account at Regions is now worth \$854,740 and the account at Synovus is worth \$164,617. Bringing the total out to be, \$1,019,357.31.

New Member Orientation- Eureka announced that she plans to have a New Member Orientation program sometime in January. A date hasn't been set yet.

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

Keaires Roberson

Optimistic Quote of the Week

“Don't lose yourself, with the hopes of helping someone else find themselves. Everyone does not want to be found.”

~ Keaires Roberson

CALENDAR

December 27th Thursday - **NO MEETING - CHRISTMAS**



2019

January 8th Tuesday **4:00 pm** 1st Commercial Bank – Whitesburg Dr.
Board Meeting

January 10th Thursday **6:00 pm** **Blue Plate Café, South Parkway**
January Evening Meeting

January 24th Thursday **11:45 am** Optimist Recreation Center
Business Meeting (Keaires Roberson)



Huntsville Optimist Club
P.O. Box 2230
Huntsville, AL 35801-2230



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