



OPTI-NOTES

"Serving the Youth of the Madison Area Since 1985"



Official Publication of The Optimist Club of Madison, AL (#29114) May 2009 - <http://www.optimistofmadison.org/>.

PRESIDENT
Mike Doyle

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
David Salisbury

VICE PRESIDENTS
John Grant
Jim Gilchrist

SECRETARY/TREASURER
Bill Oetjen

BULLETIN EDITOR
Jim Gilchrist
(H) 256 837 - 6543

WEBMASTER
John Grant

BOARD of DIRECTORS
Vic Van Leeuwen (2008 - 2010)
Tom Carter (2008 - 2010)
Richard Cooper (2008 - 2010)
Maury Bennett (2007 - 2009)
Charlie Brown (2007 -2009)
David Willsey (2007 - 2009)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Membership - TBD
Program - Jim Gilchrist
Fellowship - Maury Bennett
Kid's Christmas Party - TBD
Essay - Bill Oetjen & Jim Gilchrist
Scholarship - Dick Pendeleton
Youth Appreciation - Jim Gilchrist
Oratorical - TBD
SOS Jane Dow
Junior Golf - Maury Bennett
Street Festival
By Committee
Church Basketball - Herschel Jordan
Respect For Law - David Salisbury
OIF Representative - Herschel Jordan
Publicity - Vic van Leeuwen
Junior Optimist Club - Gale Lavelle

DISTRICT GOVERNORS
Janet N. Smith

LT GOVERNOR, ZONE 2
Carolyn Menne

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 4th - Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at O'Brian's Steak House, Speaker - Walter Pritchett

June 6th - Board of Directors Meeting, 0800 at Bill Oetjen's House

May 18th - Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m. at O'Brian's Steak Speaker - State Senator Tom Butler



Respect For Law

David Salisbury presents the plaque from The Optimist Club of Madison to **Sergeant Clayton Jordan** for eighteen years of dedicated service in Madison law enforcement.

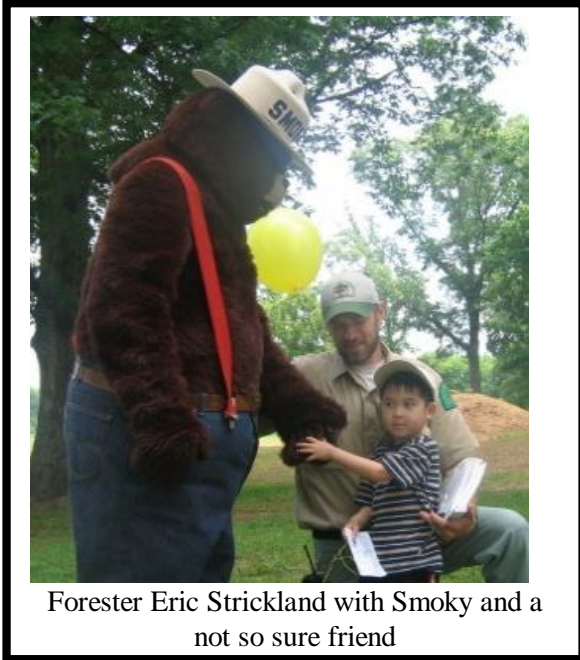
On the 12th of May Optimist clubs from North Alabama including the Madison Optimists' Club met at the Mayfair Church of Christ to honor a number of law enforcement personnel and to enjoy a BBQ dinner catered by Kent Gibbs of the Arab Optimist Club. Over 115 people met to honor selectees from the Madison County District Attorney's Office, the Arab Police Department, the Madison Police Department, the Huntsville Police Department, the Madison county Sheriff's Office, and the Alabama Department of Public Safety. The featured speaker of the evening was Judge Billy Bell of the District Court Huntsville, AL.

The selectee for the Madison Optimists' Club was Sergeant Clayton Jordan. Sgt Jordan is an eighteen year veteran of the department having served previously in the United States Marine Corps. Sgt Jordan was one of several Madison policemen who volunteered to go to New York after 9/11 to support their brother officers.

SOS 2009

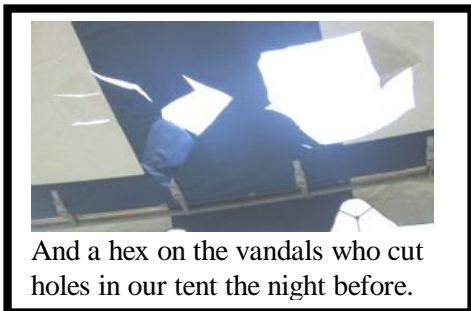
Safety Optimist Style

Despite a little rain and the threat of more rain the sun and the kids both came out and we had another successful SOS. We missed our favorite magician, Ralph "Magic" Murphy, who was physically not up his old tricks this year but our other favorite magician, Bret Myers, did an outstanding job.



Forester Eric Strickland with Smoky and a not so sure friend

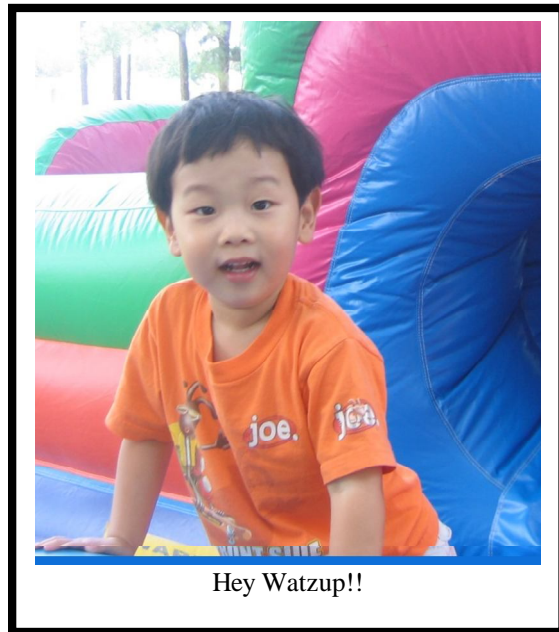
Thanks to the following hard working Optimists and friends and spouses of Optimists: Vic and Ann van Leeuwen, John and Tammy Grant, Steve Burcham, Bob and Mary Kay Mahan, Mike Doyle, Bill Oetjen, Tom Carter, Charlie Brown, Brownie West, Dave Salisbury, Walt Bendler, George and Clara Kemp, Lary Cantor, Maury Bennett, Barbara Pendleton, Jim Gilchrist, Sidney Marion, Minerva, Taylor and Nic Dahlgren, Chris Davidson, and Stephanie and Emily Lepper for manning all the stations and other tasks as assigned. And to Bill Oetjen's American Legion buddies, Kevin and Jeremy for helping put up the tent. And to **Jane "SOS" Dow** for organizing this thing and putting all the pieces together.



And a hex on the vandals who cut holes in our tent the night before.



Just two wild and crazy guys waiting for their passports



Hey Watzup!!



Nice doggie.

Scholarships Awarded – 2009

The scholarship committee, consisting of Dick Pendleton, chairman, Barbara Pendleton and Bob and Mary Kay Mahan, selected Mr. Irvin Douglas Stewart III from Bob Jones High School, Mr. Jordan Cook, Westminster Academy and Miss Ashley Burrell, Sparkman High School to receive \$1500 scholarship awards this year. Mr. Stewart and Mr. Cook attended the May 7th meeting and received their checks. Miss Burrell attended the May 21st meeting. In addition to proud family members Jordan was accompanied by his guidance counselor, Ms Alma Hustd and Irvin was accompanied by his football coach, Bryan Styles.

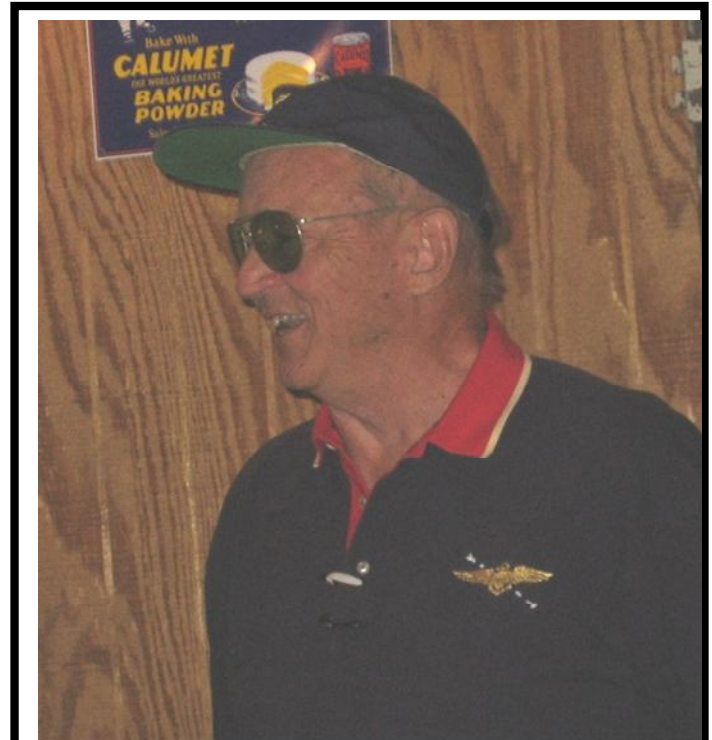


Dick Pendleton shows Ashley the money

May 21st Meeting

The speaker for the May 21st meeting was John McDonald, a former Navy carrier pilot. John gave a most entertaining presentation about his naval flying experiences. John's career was sandwiched between World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was real disappointed that the Japanese surrendered before he could go shoot at them. He was discharged just days before the Korean business started so he missed that too. After the Navy, John joined the Delta Airlines Air Force and had a long career with them. The most entertaining part of his presentation was, as you might expect, was his description of the thrill of taking off and landing on carriers. The propeller driven planes that he flew landed at three to five knots above stall speed. He contrasted that with the procedure used by jets today which press the pedal to

the metal as soon as they touch down. That's in case they miss the landing cable and have to get airborne again.



John McDonald with his top gun sunglasses

NEW MEMBER

We proudly welcomed to the Club, the newest Optimist, Tony Miele. Welcome Tony. Tony was sponsored by Mike Doyle



H O N O R R O L L

Past Club Presidents

2007 – 2008 – David Salisbury
2003-04, 2006 - 07 George Kemp
2002 –03, 2004 –05 Tom Carter
2001-02, Mike Doyle
1999-00 Walt Anderson
1998-99 Mellisa Holland
1997-98, 2005 - 06 Bill Oetjen
1996-97 John Valentine (9 Mo)
1996-97 Steve Sullins (3 Mo)
1995-96 Ed Zompa
1994-95 Thomas Holland
1993-94 Drummond Welburn
1992-93 Ron Rudiger
1991-92, 2000 - 01 Charlie Brown
1990-91 Lynn McCollum
1989-90 Larry Bachman
1988-89 Gene Strickland
1987-88 John White
1986-87 Herschel Jordan
1985, 1985 - 86 Larry Frazier

Past Lieutenant Governors

1998-2001 Bill Oetjen
1995-96 Thomas Holland
1994-95 Drummond Welburn
1993-94 Ron Rudiger
1992-93 Charlie Brown
1991-92 Lynn McCollum
1990-91 Gene Strickland
1987-88 Herschel Jordan
1986-87 Larry Frazier

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.



The Optimist Club of Madison
P.O. Box 150
Madison, AL 35758

Optinotes input due to Jim Gilchrist not later than the 25th. of the month Telephone 837-6543 or EMAIL – jamesnpat@mchsi.com

IF YOUR NAME/ADDRESS ARE INCORRECT PLEASE CONTACT Jim Gilchrist or Bill Oetjen 772 – 3343