

In our 93rd Year of Service to
Youth & the Community

www.birmingham.amoptimists.org
www.facebook.com/BirminghamOptimistClub
BirminghamOptimistClub@gmail.com

Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
April-May 2021

Meets 2nd Thursday
On Zoom
1:00 PM

Program for Thursday, May 13, 1:00 pm on Zoom

Our guest speaker will be Logan Black, Senior District Executive over Finance for the Three Rivers and Vulcan Districts of the Greater Alabama Council. A native of Jasper, Alabama and a graduate of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Logan got his start in professional scouting right out of college by serving in the Black Warrior Council in the Tuscaloosa area. Within a year, Logan was able to move to Birmingham with the Greater Alabama Council by serving the Cherokee District in West Jefferson county. Logan has also served in Shelby County before ending up within Three Rivers and Vulcan. Some of his responsibilities include nonprofit fundraising, budget development, community involvement, product sales, donor development, and volunteer recruitment and management. Logan is an Eagle Scout and has had the opportunity to travel across and outside the country because of Scouting.

Logan is currently engaged to his fiancé, Briley, with a wedding planned for May 30th. During his free time, Logan enjoys bird hunting, clay shooting, watching sports, cooking, and spending time with family and friends.

The election for Club Officers will also take place at the meeting on May 13th. The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers & directors for the administrative year beginning October 1, 2021:

President – Anita Lee
V. Pres. – Administration/CommunityAffairs – Carolyn McCoy
V. Pres. – Youth Work – Ruby Peterson
Secretary – Jon Ryan
Treasurer – Leon Evans, Jr.
Directors: Two-year terms expiring 2023:
Teresa Jones, Sandra Weems, and Sharon Wilson
OI Foundation Representative: Roger Vaughan

All nominees have agreed to serve in these positions. The nominees, together with the other incumbent directors, Dr. Paul Amamoo, Adrienne Pearson, and Ronald Taylor, whose terms expire in 2022, will comprise next year's board of directors. Officer elections will take place during the Zoom meeting on Thursday, May 13th.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:
Dr. Paul Amamoo and Jon Ryan

MEMBER NEWS

April Birthdays: 11th – Jon Ryan

May Birthdays: 13th – Charles Binion, 26th – Tom Casey

Hope you enjoy your special day!

Please note: If your birthday and/or anniversary was not included, please email the dates to Nancy Ryan at nryan95@charter.net, so they can be added to the list!!

April 8th Club Program

CCDHH Scholarship Contest & Spring Membership Drive

CCDHH Chair **Roger Vaughan** conducted our annual contest for the deaf and hard of hearing students in the Birmingham area. The topic for the 2020-2021 school year's contest was the same as for the Oratorical contest, "Healing the World with Optimism."

Club Winners received the following cash prizes: First Place: **John Address** - \$300, Second Place: **Will Address** - \$200, and Third Place: **Aaron Austin**, \$100. Each winner also received a medallion, certificate of participation & Chick-Fil-A gift card!

Thank you to our Club Contest judges and timekeeper: **Dr. Paul Amamoo, Ruby Peterson, Ron Taylor, and Jon Ryan.**

Each of the contestants advanced in competition to the district level. The winner of the 2020-2021 AL-MS District CCDHH Contest and recipient of a \$2,500 college scholarship is **John Address!** Congratulations to John and to each participant who did an outstanding job in representing our Club!!



AL-MS District CCDHH Scholarship Winner John Address

In addition to our CCDHH Contest, the Club also held a NOW (New Optimists Welcome) Program kicking off our Spring Membership Drive conducted by Membership Chairs **Leon Evans** and **Teresa Jones**.

The Club is pleased to welcome our newest Friends of Optimists Members who attended the special event: **Herbert Brayboy, Sr.**, sponsored by **Anita Lee**; **Allan Evans**, sponsored by **Leon Evans**; and **Brandi Werther**, sponsored by **Ruby Peterson**.

Other special guests at the event included:

Mrs. Thelma Davis, guest of **Sandra Weems**

Sharon Tillman, guest of **Carolyn McCoy**

Zeke Willis, guest of **Leon Evans**

Gina Levert, guest of **Adrienne Pearson**

Roderick Mack, guest of **Dr. Paul Amamoo**

Danella Johnson, guest of **Kendra Johnson**

Regina Jones, guest of **Teresa Jones**

Zoé Champion, Chandler Champion & Kelly Driver, guests of **Nancy Ryan**

The Club was honored to have Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen 2019, Zoé Champion, Miss Alabama 2013, Chandler Champion, and Program Director of Olivia's House, Kelly Driver, as our guest speakers at the NOW Program to share about their experiences in partnering with the Club to benefit youth in the community over the past several years.

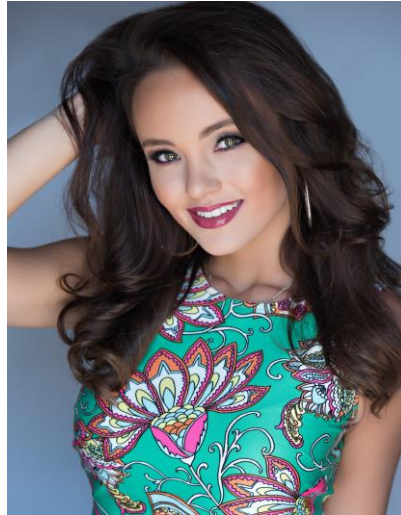


Zoé Champion

Zoé is an 18 year old Senior at Alabama Connections Academy. Zoé will be attending the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the Fall with a major in Kinesiology with plans of achieving a Doctorate of Physical Therapy.

In March 2019 she was crowned Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen 2019. In July 2019, she competed for the title of Miss America's Outstanding Teen in Orlando, FL. She placed in the top 15, won the preliminary on-stage question and evening gown, and was awarded the Spirit of America award.

Zoé's platform is Champions M.A.D.E., make a difference every day, focusing on volunteering and making a difference every day. She partners with the Optimist Club of Birmingham whose focus is empowering today's youth.



Chandler Champion

Since her time as Miss Alabama 2013, Chandler Champion has been busy working and continuing her education. She is currently the Marketing Specialist for Sonos Imaging. Chandler also currently teaches dance at Miss Kelley's School of Dance in Trussville. She recently received a certificate in Psychology of Criminal Justice from the University of Queensland Australia, and is currently pursuing a certificate in Justice Law from Harvard University. She is working toward obtaining her Master's degree in Criminal Justice with hopes of obtaining a law degree as well. She has worked with the Optimist Club since she was 17 years old and has loved every minute of her time working with the members of the club in order to help empower youth.



Kelly Driver

Kelly McMorris Driver is a native of Birmingham, Alabama. She studied at Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama where she completed a Bachelor's in Psychology and a Master of Science degree in Agency Counseling. She possesses 30 years of experience in Human Services and 25 years as a Clinician. She also has 15 years of facilitating Domestic Violence groups to male offenders for the Birmingham Police department. She has worked with thousands of clients over the years who suffer with Alcohol and or Drug addiction, anxiety, trauma, depression, self-esteem and family issues. She currently serves as the Director of Olivia House, an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center for women with children to enter the program for six months to a year. She is a Life Coach and advocate for women with drug addiction issues and one of the authors of A Woman's Journey. She enjoys decorating, singing and talking to family and friends.