

Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
May - June 2023

In our 95th Year of Service to
Youth & the Community

Meets 2nd Thursday
12:00 Noon

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

The Club will be meeting at the **YWCA Central Alabama, 309 23rd St. North, Birmingham, AL 35203**, on Thursday, June 8th, at 12 noon.

June 8th Club Meeting

Our guest speaker will be **Constance Kelly**, ACE Certified Personal Trainer, and owner of BODY OF WORK located in Pelham, Alabama. A collegiate athlete and graduate of Troy University with a degree in Sport Fitness Management, she has helped improve the health and fitness of many in Shelby and Jefferson Counties through her fitness training. Often featured on WBRC Fox6 Exercise Monday or Shape Up Sunday segments, she has also been featured in Birmingham Magazine and the Shelby County Reporter.

Ms. Kelly has requested that attendees wear comfortable clothing & shoes so you can participate in the exercise demonstration she will be leading, rather than your usual business attire.

May 11th Meeting

The **NOW (New Members Welcome) Luncheon** conducted by **Membership Committee Chair Leon Evans, along with Co-Chairs Teresa Jones & Sharon Wilson**, took place at City Club and was a great success!

The Club was honored to have **Miss Alabama's Outstanding Teen 2019 Zoé Champion**, as our guest speaker to share about her experiences with the Club over the past 12 years, since the time she began volunteering at the age of 7, along with her parents, when her sister, **Chandler Champion**, began partnering with the Club while serving as Miss Center Point and continued partnering with us through the time she was crowned and served as Miss Alabama 2013 and beyond!

The Club was delighted that Zoé chose to partner with us on several projects through her affiliation with the Miss Outstanding Teen program, most notably, the establishment of the **Zoé Champion Olivia's House Children's Library** and the **Birmingham Optimist Club Computer Room** at Olivia's House in 2018. She is continuing to volunteer with the Club in a new project at Olivia's House.

The Club is proud to welcome **New Members**:

Clara Greene, sponsored by **Sharon Wilson**

Nancy Benjamin (Friend of Optimists), **Ra'Jeeni Marshall, Shakira Marshall, & Vanessa Miles**, (daughter, granddaughter, and cousin of Carolyn McCoy, respectively), all sponsored by **Carolyn McCoy**.

Other special guests included **Monithia Smith**, niece of **Carolyn McCoy**, & **Roderick Asberry**, guest of **Angene Coleman**.

MEMBER NEWS

The Optimist Club of Birmingham extends our deepest sympathy to Secretary-Elect **Teresa Jones** on the recent passing of her beloved sister, Barnetta Marzette.

Teresa sent the following note to all:

My fellow Optimist Family,

The arrangement you sent was beautiful & refreshing. It meant so much to me to have your support. Thank you all for your kindness, thoughts & prayers.

Yours in Optimism, Teresa

Even if he dies, he will be with God, although the resurrection has not come to take place. He will receive a place in heaven, full of Glory, when this life is done.

2 Corinthians 5:1-5

May Birthdays: 13th – Charles Binion, 26th – Tom Casey
June Birthdays: 11th – Dan Hardwick, 20th – Herb Forsythe, 30th – Kendra Johnson. **June Anniversaries:** 18th – Linda & Steve Wingo

Hope you each enjoy/enjoyed 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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, June 15, Board of Directors Zoom Mtg., 1 pm
Saturday, June 17 – Sickle Cell Walk, Railroad Park, 8 am – 12 noon.

Thursday, July 13, 12 Noon – Respect for Law Program, at City Club

Thursday, July 20 – Board of Directors Zoom Mtg., 1 pm

SICKLE CELL WALK

Each year we have supported the Sickle Cell Walk in Birmingham by sponsoring a team. Our team is "The Optimist Onlookers." This gives a clue to how we participate in the walk – mostly "virtually".

If you would like to support the program, you can send your check, made out to "B.O.Y.F." (Birmingham Optimist Youth Foundation) for \$30.00 to Mr. Leon Evans, 700 – 71st Place South, Birmingham, AL 35206 and note "Sickle Cell Walk" in the remarks section of the check.

You can attend the walk, which will be at Birmingham's Railroad Park June 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon, either in person or in spirit.

If you do plan to attend in person, please let Leon know that you will be attending. You may contact Leon at levansjr74@aol.com or 205-222-6227.

SNAPSHOTS FROM NEW OPTIMISTS WELCOME LUNCHEON



Zoé Champion pictured above left with Angene Coleman & Jacquelyn Holder; above right with Adrienne Pearson; below left with Leon Evans & below right with Jon & Nancy Ryan.



Monithia Smith, New Member Ra'Jeeni Marshall, Sponsor Carolyn McCoy & New Member Vanessa Miles



New Member Clara Greene & Sponsor Sharon Wilson



Roderick Asberry, Angene Coleman & Jacquelyn Holder