

Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
October-November 2022

Meets 2nd Thursday
City Club
12:00 Noon

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

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

NOVEMBER 10TH MEETING

Our guest speaker was **Traci Newell**, a licensed social worker and Director of Church-Based Programs at Lifeline Children's Services. In her role, Traci has the privilege of working alongside local churches to serve vulnerable youth and families and extend the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Lifeline's church-based programs are Families Count, a family preservation and restoration ministry, and Heritage Builders, a ministry for youth aging out of foster care. For more information about Lifeline Children's Services and/or how to make a donation, please visit: <https://lifelinechild.org/>



OCTOBER 20TH MEETING

The meeting featured the Installation of Club Officers & Board Members conducted by our honored guest, **AL-MS District Governor Vera Hendrix**. Club President **Carolyn McCoy** also presented her plans for the Club during the 2022-2023 Optimist year!

The Club was blessed with many guests at this special meeting including the following family members and friends of **Carolyn McCoy**: **Valencia & Andre Flowers** (daughter & son-in-law); **Ra'Jeeni Marshall** (daughter); **Shakira Marshall** (granddaughter), **CJ Marshall** (grandson); **Vanessa** (cousin) & **Larry Miles**; **Monithia Smith** (niece), & **Michelle Williams** (friend).

Guests of **Zone 1 Lt. Governor Leon Evans** included **Linda & Sye Carter** (sister & brother-in-law) and **Allan Evans** (brother).

I.C. Bell was the guest of new member, **Bettie Bell**.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

November 29th & December 1st – Ring the Bells for the Salvation Army – See newsletter for more details.

December 8th – Christmas Luncheon at City Club, 1:00 p.m. Reservations required by Friday, December 2nd. Musical entertainment provided by trio from Alabama School of Fine Arts beginning at 11:45 a.m. Guest speaker will be Major Bret McElroy with the Salvation Army. More details to follow.

MEMBER NEWS

October Birthdays: 16th – Margie Argo, 22nd – Dewayne Smith, 29th – Dr. Paul Amamoo, 31st – Ken Holcomb

Anniversaries: 14th – Rudy & Anita Lee, 15th – Laurie & Charlie Binion, 26th – Gwen & Paul Amamoo,

November Birthdays: 1st – Dr. Kim Carr

Hope you each 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!!



Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week is an alcohol, tobacco, and other drug and violence prevention awareness campaign observed annually in October in the United States. In recognition of Red Ribbon Week, **Angene Coleman** organized and chaired a special contest at Robinson School on Monday, October 24th. **Bettie Bell**, **Anita Lee**, and **Adrienne Pearson** served as judges of the doors decorated by the 3rd Grade classes that were based on the theme, "Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free." Goody bags were provided for each of the 40 participants. The Club provided a \$100 gift card for Mrs. Hughes' winning class!



Angene Coleman congratulates Mrs. Hughes & presents her with a \$100 gift card for her class!



Judges Bettie Bell, Anita Lee & Adrienne Pearson congratulate Mrs. Hughes

JUVENILE JUSTICE JEOPARDY

The Optimist Club of Birmingham took part in an educational game in September, created specifically for young people in Birmingham. Sponsored by the Housing Authority Birmingham District, Strategies for Youth, Youth Towers (**Alice Westery**, Founder & Executive Director), and the Optimist Club of Birmingham, Juvenile Justice Jeopardy (JJJ) helps kids stay safe and out of the juvenile justice system by learning about how to navigate interactions with peers and the police. Club members taking part in a workshop, pilot game, and games taking place at Youth Towers and Higdon Hill, were **Angene Coleman, Anita Lee, & Carolyn McCoy**. Special thanks to Attorneys **Lisa Thurau & Kristen Wheeler**, creators of the game, who were there to help facilitate the games.



SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS

The Optimist Club of Birmingham will be carrying out our long-time tradition of "Ringing the Bells" for the Salvation Army at Christmas time. The dates set for ringing (in 1 hour time slots) this year are Tuesday, November 29, and Thursday, December 1, 11am–1pm, at Belk at The Summit. We will need 2–4 volunteers for each hour. *Please note: If we have at least 4 volunteers available for each time slot and any who are willing to serve beginning at 10 am, then the time will be extended to 10 am-1pm and we can sponsor a kettle at two doors instead of just one. A schedule will be sent out soon to sign up for volunteering, or please let [Nancy Ryan](#) (205-531-5992) know if you are interested in participating!

OCT. 20TH MEETING / INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



Bettie Bell, I.C. Bell & Angene Coleman



President Carolyn McCoy with Mary & Dewayne Smith



**President Carolyn with proud daughters,
Ra'Jeeni Marshall & Valencia Flowers**



**President Carolyn McCoy, Zone 1 Lt. Gov. Leon Evans
& AL-MS District Governor Vera Hendrix**



**President Carolyn with grandchildren,
Shakira & CJ Marshall**



**President Carolyn McCoy &
Lt. Governor Leon Evans**



President Carolyn with Vanessa (cousin) & Larry Miles



**President Carolyn & Lt. Gov. Leon with Leon's sister,
Linda Carter & brother-in-law, Sye Carter, & brother and
Friend of Optimist Member, Allan Evans (back center.)**



President Carolyn with niece, Monithia Smith



President Carolyn with friend, Michelle Williams



**President Carolyn McCoy pictured with very proud family members:
Larry Miles, Michelle Williams, Vanessa Miles,
Monithia Smith, Ra'Jeeni Marshall, Valencia Flowers (new member),
Shakira Marshall, CJ Marshall & Andre Flowers (new member)!**