

# Optimist Club of Birmingham

In Our 90<sup>th</sup> Year of Service to  
Youth & the Community

[www.birmingham.amoptimists.org](http://www.birmingham.amoptimists.org)  
[www.facebook.com/BirminghamOptimistClub](https://www.facebook.com/BirminghamOptimistClub)  
[BirminghamOptimistClub@gmail.com](mailto:BirminghamOptimistClub@gmail.com)

The Flagship Club of the  
Alabama-Mississippi District  
January 11, 2018

Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays  
12:15 PM  
[Alabama Power Co.](http://AlabamaPowerCo.com)  
600 18<sup>th</sup> St. N  
Birmingham, AL 35203

Our January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Church located at 980 Huffman Rd., Birmingham, 35215, 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. A catered meal of baked chicken, broccoli casserole, mixed vegetables, mixed green salad, rolls, homemade pound cake, coffee & tea will be provided for \$10/person.

## Program

Our guest speaker will be Synethia Davis with the Children's Aid Society. She will be speaking on the role that the Children's Aid Society plays in supporting the many initiatives that help foster youth in our community, as well as the role she plays in providing consultation to foster youth. Synethia will also share some of her own experience as a foster child.

Please bring one or more new or gently used children's books to the meeting to donate for the children's library at Olivia's House. \*The public library is a good place to look for books that may be on sale for a very reasonable price.

## Last Meeting

Our Club's annual Christmas party took place at **Arlington Antebellum Home & Gardens** on Thursday, December 14th, Live musical entertainment was provided by Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame Director of Student Jazz Programs Ray Reach on piano and Aaron Shapiro on bass. Members & guests enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Arlington's Chef. Optimists & guests were invited to take a guided tour of the Antebellum Home after the program.

The event featured our annual *Kards for Kids Christmas Campaign* gift card presentation to benefit foster teens served through Jefferson County DHR & Gateway. There to receive the gift cards were Robin King and Sylvia Craig-Burnett from DHR, along with Lauren Summers and Reginald Wilson from Gateway. Other guests included Eva Brown, guest of **Dr. Wayman Shiver, Jr.**; Jerry Coleman, husband of **Angene Coleman**; and Mary Smith, wife of **Dewayne Smith, Sr.** It was great to have member **Dan Hardwick** back with us, as well as **Debbie & Don Kirkland** who were in town from Wichita, KS, for the holidays!

## Upcoming Events

January 18 – Board Meeting, YWCA, 12 noon, BYO lunch

Thursday, January 25, 2 p.m. – Opening of Olivia's House *Zoé Champion Children's Library* and *Birmingham Optimist Computer Room*, at Olivia's House, 8017 2nd Avenue S., Birmingham, 35206.

February 2, 7-11 p.m. - *JUMP JIVE 4 KIDS* Dance at Our Lady of Lourdes Family Life Center - Fundraiser to benefit our support for Huffman Youth Baseball & Park, where our Club serves as sponsor of the 11-12 year-old teams and Optimist Club Field. Optimists Jessica & Curtis Lloyd will sing & spin the tunes for guests to dance the night away. Dance - \$5; Dance & Dinner - \$8

**PLEASE NOTE:** Items for men & women are needed for the Silent Auction & Raffle. Please bring items to the Jan. 11 meeting or Jan. 25 event, or contact Nancy Ryan at 205-467-9170, 205-531-5992 or [nryan95@charter.net](mailto:nryan95@charter.net) to arrange for pick up / delivery of items.

## [Optimist Club of Birmingham Calendar 2017-2018](#)

### Member News

**January Birthdays:** 5<sup>th</sup> – Flora Giles, 8<sup>th</sup> – Leon Evans, 22<sup>nd</sup> – Kenny Haynes, 26<sup>th</sup> – Ruby Peterson, 29<sup>th</sup> – Ron Taylor.  
**Anniversaries:** 28<sup>th</sup> – Sri & Dr. Sudha Gutti, 29<sup>th</sup> – Marguerite & Kenny Haynes. Enjoy your special day!

The Optimist Club of Birmingham is proud to welcome new member **Flora Giles**, who is sponsored by **Ruby Peterson**. Flora is a Guidance School Counselor at Huffman High School.

### CONDOLENCES

The Optimist Club of Birmingham extends our deepest sympathy to **Patricia Johnson** on the death of her beloved father, Ardis Williams, on December 25, and to **Jon Ryan** on the death of his beloved mother, **Ruth Guyette**, who was also a Friend of Optimists, on December 26.

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING & LUNCH OUTING

The Optimist Club of Birmingham was proud to sponsor Our Lady of Lourdes Youth & Children's Choir for Christmas caroling and handing out Christmas cards and candy for residents at Birmingham Nursing & Rehabilitation Center East on December 22nd. The residents were delighted that the children came by to sing and visit with them and to wish them a "Merry Christmas!" Optimists **Jessica Lloyd & Nancy Ryan** served as chaperones, along with several parents of the children. Following the visit, the Club treated the group to lunch at Cici's Pizza.



THANK YOU TO JOE CASSELL FOR VOLUNTEERING WITH SANTA'S HELPERS IN DECEMBER AT DHR





# CHRISTMAS AT ARLINGTON

December 14, 2017



Aaron Shapiro & Ray Reach (Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame Director of Student Jazz Programs), provided live jazz entertainment before and during the program.



Sylvia Craig-Burnett & Robin King with DHR with Program Chair & Board Member Joe Cassell



Reginald Wilson & Lauren Summers with Gateway



Deborah Dickinson with newlyweds Anita & Rudy Lee



Angene & Jerry Coleman



Dr. Wayman Shiver, Jr. & guest, Eva Brown



Dewayne & Mary Smith



Alice Westery



# CHRISTMAS AT ARLINGTON

December 14, 2017



Presentation of *Kard for Kids* gift cards for foster teens served through DHR & Gateway provided by the Optimist Club with generous support from Our Lady of Lourdes Church & Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Alabama.



Vice President Ruby & Glenn Peterson



Lt. Governor Leon Evans, Jr. & Friend of Optimists Carolyn Coleman



Debbie & Don Kirkland



Secretary Nancy Ryan & President Jon Ryan

Other Club members who attended were Dan Hardwick, Patricia Johnson & Roger Vaughan.