

Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
July-August 2024

In our 96th Year of Service to
Youth & the Community

Meets 3rd Thursday
12:00 Noon

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

**YOUTH APPRECIATION PROGRAM TO BE HELD
SEPT. 19, 12 NOON, AT CITY CLUB BIRMINGHAM
1901 6TH AVE. N., STE 3100, BIRMINGHAM**

Cost/person - \$27. Reservations due by Sept. 13th.

**RSVP: Leon Evans at 205-222-6227 or
levansjr74@aol.com**

Youth Appreciation Co-Chairs **Leon Evans & Erma Hinton** will be conducting our annual program where we will be recognizing three young people in our community for their outstanding accomplishments.

AUGUST 15TH CLUB MEETING

Our distinguished speaker at the August 15th Club meeting was our member, **Dr. Paul Amamoo**, who shared about his recent mission trip to Apaaso, Ghana, a Birmingham Sister City, where our Club serves as one of the sponsors. Dr. Amamoo shared pictures and information on the progress that has been made since his last visit, on the library and other projects taking place there.

Membership Chair **Clara Greene** & Treasurer **Leon Evans** promoted our Club's Membership Drive & encouraged members to invite others to join.

RESPECT FOR LAW PROGRAM HELD JULY 18TH

Respect for Law Chair **Adrienne Pearson** and Co-Chair **Jacqueline Holder** conducted the annual Respect for Law Program, which took place at City Club Birmingham on July 18th. The Club honored our **Respect for Law 2024 Recipient, Captain Anthony J. Dotson**, of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, who was introduced by **Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway**.

Our distinguished Keynote Speaker was **Jefferson County Attorney Theo Lawson**. The Club was also honored to have distinguished guests: **Assistant Sheriff Anthony (Tony) Pippen**, **Zone 1 Lt. Governor Mike Holt**, **Director of Public Information Helen Hayes**, **Paralegal Melanie Reid**, **Assistant County Attorney Regina Burpo**, **Yolanda Lawson**, wife of Theo, along with family members of the honoree in attendance.

JUNE 20TH CLUB MEETING

Our guest speaker was **Tiffany Osborne**, Director of Community Engagement for the University of Alabama at Birmingham Minority Health & Health Equity Research Center (MHERC). With more than 25 years of experience building and maintaining strong relationships, as Director of the Community Engagement for the UAB MHERC, Tiffany Osborne leads a team that supports investigators to positively impact health in vulnerable populations experiencing health disparities. Tiffany's ability to communicate effectively with individuals from diverse racial, ethnic, socioeconomic, and gender backgrounds is attributed to her background as a television news journalist.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 17 – Teen Summit, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm,
Sept 19 – Youth Appreciation at City Club, 12 noon
Month of September – Walk for a Cure (see flyer)

MEMBER NEWS

The Optimist Club offers our deepest condolences to **Teresa Jones** on the recent loss of her brother, Tyrone Woods. Please keep Teresa and her family in your prayers.

The Club is also sending our prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery to **President Carolyn McCoy** who had a recent fall, injuring her back, which required surgery. She is at home recuperating and is attending outpatient rehab therapy as she continues to improve each and every day.

July Birthdays: 9th – Deborah Dickinson, 12th – Erma Hinton, 19th – Angene Coleman, 19th - Jacqueline Holder
Anniversaries: 4th – Jerry & Margie Argo, 26th – Judy & Ron Taylor

August Birthdays: 1st – Don Kirkland, 4th – Steve Wingo, 17th – Clara Greene, 21st – Vanessa Miles, 24th Judge Patricia Stephens, 27th – Capt. Janice Blackwell, 27th – Dorothy Davis, 29th Bettie Bell.

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!

THANK YOU FROM CLUB MEMBER MARIA HATCH MARIA'S WOMEN HEALTH & WELLNESS

To the Members of the Optimist Club. Thank you so very much for your love donation to my 2nd Annual Mother & Daughter Tea. Because of you, I was able to bless 6 guests. Because of you, I was able to bless 6 guests.

Blessings,
Maria Hatch, CEO & Founder
Maria's Women Health & Wellness



President Carolyn McCoy & Adrienne Pearson thank June 20th guest speaker, Tiffany Osborne, for her excellent presentation.

SNAPSHOTS FROM OPTIMIST CLUB ACTIVITIES

DRUMS OF APAASO BENEFIT BRUNCH

Optimist Club Members and guests attended the "Drums of Apaaso" Benefit Brunch, sponsored by Cultivating Partnerships in Ghana, Inc. (CPG), on July 13th at The Harambee Room in Birmingham. Proceeds from the event benefited the Apaaso Community Library & Room in Ghana. CPG is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which our Club began partnering with in 2017, to help provide funding for the Apaaso Community Library.



Dr. Paul Amamoo, Adrienne Pearson, Anita Lee, President Carolyn McCoy, Sharon Wilson, Leon Evans attending the Drums of Apaaso Benefit Brunch.



Valerie Price, guest of Anita Lee, Rudy & Anita Lee, Jerry & Angene Coleman, Clara Greene, Teresa Jones, and Adrienne Pearson attending the Drums of Apaaso Benefit Brunch.



Dr. Paul A Amamoo, gave an excellent presentation on August 15 about his mission trip to Apaaso, Ghana. (More pics in next newsletter.)

AL/MS DISTRICT MEETING



Congratulations to President Carolyn McCoy for receiving the "Strength of Optimism" Award for exemplifying the Optimist Creed from AL-MS Governor Jeff Keener! The Optimist Club of Birmingham was also recognized for having the highest net increase in membership for the 3rd Quarter and earned the honor of having possession of and displaying the trophy throughout this 4th quarter!

President-Elect Sharon Wilson and Treasurer Leon Evans accepted the awards on behalf of President Carolyn and the Club at the District Convention held in Mobile, AL, August 16-18.

SNAPSHOTS FROM OPTIMIST CLUB ACTIVITIES

RESPECT FOR LAW PROGRAM
THURSDAY, JULY 18, CITY CLUB BIRMINGHAM



Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway, Respect for Law Honoree Captain Anthony Dotson, Respect for Law Chair Adrienne Pearson, Club President Carolyn McCoy, & Respect for Law Co-Chair Jacqueline Holder



The Club was honored to have Jefferson County Attorney Theo Lawson as our keynote speaker.



Respect for Law Co-Chair Jacqueline Holder is pictured with Helen Hayes, Director of Public Information, Melanie Reid, Paralegal, Theo Lawson, Jefferson County Attorney, Yolanda Lawson, wife of Theo, and Regina Burpo, Assistant County Attorney.



Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway & Respect for Law Chair Adrienne Pearson present Respect for Law Award to Captain Anthony Dotson



Jefferson County Assistant Sheriff Tony Phippen congratulates our Respect for Law Honoree, Captain Anthony Dotson



Assistant Sheriff Anthony (Tony) Phippen, Respect for Law Chair Adrienne Pearson, Jefferson County Sheriff Mark Pettway, Respect for Law Award Honoree Captain Anthony Dotson, Club President Carolyn McCoy, Respect for Law Co-Chair Jacqueline Holder, and Jefferson County Attorney Theo Lawson



The Club was honored to have Zone 1 Lt. Gov. Mike Holt at our Respect for Law Program.