



OPTI-NOTES



"Serving the Youth of the Madison Area Since 1985"

Official Publication of The Optimist Club of Madison, AL (#29114) June 2004 - <http://www.optimistofmadison.org/>.

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Madison, AL 35758
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BOARD of DIRECTORS

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David Willsey (2002 – 2004)
Tom Holland (2003 - 2005)
Mike Doyle (2003 - 2005)
Charlie Brown (2003 - 2005)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership – Herschel Jordan
Program – Tom Carter
Fellowship – Larry Frazier
Kid's Christmas Party – Jennifer Woodrow
Essay – Bill Oetjen – Pat Carter
Scholarship – Ann van Leeuwen
Youth Appreciation – TBD
Oratorical – Jim Gilchrist
SOS Jane Dow
Junior Golf – Maury Bennett
Street Festival & Steak Feed –
Mike Doyle ?????
Church Basketball – Herschel Jordan
Respect For Law – TBD
OIF Representative – Larry Frazier

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Willie Haygood

LT GOVERNOR, ZONE 2

Tom Causey

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**July 1st Regular First Thursday Meeting,
6:30 P.M., Bruno's Highway 72W.**

**July 10th Board of Directors Meeting,
at the House of Kemp, 170 Manningham, in
Abbingdon Downs, 8:00 A.M.**

**July 15th– Regular Third Thursday Meeting,
6:30 P.M., Bruno's Highway 72W**

Report from the deep rough
by golfer at large
-Tiger Bennett



The AL/MS Optimist International Junior Golf Championship was held at the Valley Landing golf course in Courtland, AL on June 15-16. This year our club sponsored Justin Williams. Justin is a junior and the number one golfer at Bob Jones High School and a member of the All Metro team. Out of a field of 29 golfers in the 16-18 age group, Justin finished in 6th place shooting 77-75(152). The winner, who was #2 on the Grissom golf team, shot 73-75(148).

Some other notable winning scores were: Boys (10-11) 79-77(156), Boys (14-15), 74-75(149), Girls(12-13) 79-77(156) and Girls (16-18) 75-76(151).

The Boys (10-11) and Girls (12-13) winners who shot the same score just happen to be brother and sister. The boys (14-15) winner, Austin Peacock who I saw play in Florida a few years ago has a great future in the game. At the same tournament, the girls winner was Stacy Pramanasudh who is now doing quite well on the LPGA Tour.

Maury Bennett

*It should be noted that Justin, as was our previous good golfers, was **not** coached by Bill Oetjen and he largely ignored any tips from Tiger.*

June 3 rd Meeting

The scheduled speaker didn't materialize but we drafted a very able standin. James Walsh, who earlier this year completed a tour of duty with the Army in Afghanistan, returned just in time to give us a first person account of the situation there.

It was a great shock to everyone in attendance but James indicated that what we see on TV and read in the print media doesn't always portray the reality of the scene on the ground. It seems that there actually are some successes by our military there.

James served there as a member of the National Guard and he also reported that, almost to a man, all the returning guardsmen in his unit planned to leave the service.

James, himself, is leaving to join the FBI, so he'll probably also be leaving the club soon.

We'd like to thank James for the report and for his contributions to Optimist club of Madison.

Bike Rodeo

The Bike Rodeo for the Pack Eight Scouts, was held June 12th at Monrovia Middle School, and boy was it hot. As Robin Williams once said "It was **HOT!!!!!! &@%# HOT!!!!!!**

Thanks to Walt Anderson for the ice and to Bill Oetjen, Steve Wilsey, Jane Dow, Mike Doyle and Jim Gilchrist for showing up. We actually could have used a few more Optimists because we had to draft one of the Scout mothers to man (or woman) one of the stations, as the case may be.

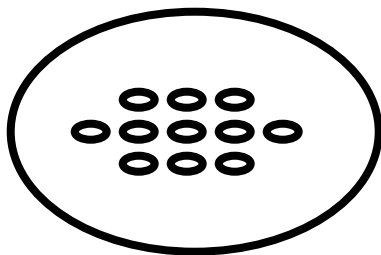
The number of participants was a little off compared to previous years. There was a camp-out at Joe Davis Stadium the previous night and that took a toll on the attendance. The ones that were there though were enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed it. They are considering inviting another pack next year which should considerably increase participation.

.June 17th Meeting

The 50/50 raffle was won by Charlie Brown and worth \$10. Maury Bennett was the big \$4.00 winner in the Bag of Names drawing.

SPEAKER

The Speaker for the evening was Joe McGinty. Joe is an Auburn Engineer who has designed a golf club (driver) that keeps track of where exactly on the club face the ball was struck. The club was designed as a training aid that gives golfers/hackers immediate feedback so they can improve their swing. This is accomplished by drilling a series of holes in the club face and embedding electronic sensors that record which holes were covered at the time of impact. A circuit card captures the information and displays it on the end of the shaft. Of course, if you miss the ball entirely, this club won't tell you much. You've got to at least make contact somewhere in the vicinity of the center of the club.



Joe's account of the process of getting from the idea stage to the marketing stage was just about as interesting as the technical aspects of the design. He likened the process to crossing the Grand Canyon on foot. You can read more and even order a club for \$199 by visiting the website at trophyshot.com.

One of the questions Joe answered was whether the club could be used as a playing club or was it restricted to the

practice range. First of all you can practice in your back yard with a foam ball because the club records the holes that are covered regardless of the type ball used. Secondly, the club performs just like a regular driver on the course. Maybe even better because of the holes in the face.

At the conclusion of the presentation everyone present was given a free sample – not.

Thanks Joe. War Eagle

Editor's note.

I'm waiting on the laser guided putter.

Board of Directors

The **Treasurer's Report** as of 31 May 2004 showed the following account balances.

General (Club Expenses & Dues) - \$5351.30

Youth (includes Church Basketball) - \$13483.17

Edward Jones - \$3620.50

The board approved a grant of \$200 to Emily Duke to help defray expensed toward attending the National Youth Leadership Conference, July 5-15, 2004. We had budgeted \$200 for the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference (HOBY). Since we didn't send anyone to HOBY this, in effect, transfers the money to Emily. We expect to have her as a guest after she returns



From the email of Carl Dow

The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.....*Mark Twain*

In general, the art of government consists in taking as much money as possible from one party of the citizens to give to the other.....*Voltaire (1764)*

H O N O R A R O L L

International President

William H. Teague

District Governor

David Ryan

Zone 2 Lieutenant Governor

Tom Causey

Past Club Presidents

2002 -03 Tom Carter
2001-02 Mike Doyle
2000-01 Charlie Brown
1999-00 Walt Anderson
1998-99 Mellisa Holland
1997-98 Bill Oetjen
1996-97 Steve Sullins (3 Mo)
1996-97 John Valentine (9 Mo)
1995-96 Ed Zompa
1994-95 Thomas Holland
1993-94 Drummond Welburn
1992-93 Ron Rudiger
1991-92 Charlie Brown
1990-91 Lynn McCollum
1989-90 Larry Bachman
1988-89 Gene Strickland
1987-88 John White
1986-87 Herschel Jordan
1985-86 Larry Frazier
1985 Larry Frazier

Past Lieutenant Governors

1998-2001 Bill Oetjen
1995-96 Thomas Holland
1994-95 Drummond Welburn
1993-94 Ron Rudiger
1992-93 Charlie Brown
1991-92 Lynn McCollum
1990-91 Gene Strickland
1987-88 Herschel Jordan
1986-87 Larry Frazier

THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



The Optimist Club of Madison
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Optinotes input due to Jim Gilchrist not later than the 25th. of the month Telephone 837-6543/461-2727 or EMAIL -James.L.Gilchrist@Boeing.com

IF YOUR NAME/ADDRESS ARE INCORRECT PLEASE CONTACT Jim Gilchrist or Bill Oetjen 772 - 3343