

In our 98th Year of Service to
Youth & the Community

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Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
June-July 2026

Meets 3rd Thursday
12:00 Noon

AUGUST 20TH RESPECT FOR LAW PROGRAM CITY CLUB BIRMINGHAM 1901 6th Ave N #3100, Birmingham, AL 35203

Respect for Law Program Co-Chairs, Capt. Janice Blackwell, Jackie Holder, and Adrienne Pearson, will be conducting our annual Respect for Law Program. The Club will be recognizing Truman Fitzgerald, Attorney at Law, as the recipient of our 2026 Respect for Law Award. It will also be a great honor to have Truman's wife, Erin Fitzgerald, Police Lieutenant with the City of Birmingham, as our guest speaker at the event.

The cost of the meal will be \$27/person.

MEMBER NEWS

The Optimist Club extends our deepest condolences to Teresa Jones on the recent passing of her sister-in-law, Janice Jones Lyle. Please keep Teresa, her husband Mike, and all their family in your prayers.

JUNE Birthdays: 11th – Dan Hardwick, 20th – Herb Forsythe

JUNE Anniversaries: 18th – Linda & Steve Wingo

JULY Birthdays: 6th – Nicole Webb, 12th – Erma Hinton, 18th – Mark Taylor, 19th – Angene Coleman, 19th – Jackie Holder

JULY Anniversaries: 4th – Jerry & Margie Argo, 26th – Judy & Ron Taylor

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.



BINGO & ICE CREAM SUNDAES AT RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE JUNE 2, 2026

The Optimist Club of Birmingham enjoyed providing a fun evening on June 2, with BINGO & Ice Cream Sundaes for the children and their families at Ronald McDonald House! Optimists Joy Stanley, Tara Fisher, Anita Jones, President Sharon Wilson, Jon & Nancy Ryan had a great time calling out the numbers, serving up sundaes and making sure that everyone won a prize!

Special thanks goes to Ronald McDonald House Programs & Activities Manager, Zelma Mae Cable, who is always so helpful in coordinating activities and times for our Club members to serve as volunteers, along with Activities Volunteer, Ti'Mia, who was on hand to assist the Club with whatever was needed throughout the evening!! 🥰🥰



Optimists Joy Stanley, Tara Fisher, Anita Jones, President Sharon Wilson, Jon & Nancy Ryan are all set to play BINGO with prizes for everyone!



Optimists Jon Ryan, Nancy Ryan, Anita Jones, President Sharon Wilson & Tara Fisher thank RMH Activities Volunteer, Ti'Mia, for her assistance with BINGO & Ice Cream Sundaes Night!!

SNAPSHOTS FROM CLUB MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

28TH MAGIC CITY SICKLE CELL WALK JUNE 20, 2026

The Optimist Club of Birmingham was proud to take part in the 28th Magic City Sickle Cell Walk, which took place on Saturday, June 20, 2026, at Railroad Park in Birmingham. The event ran from 8:00 a.m. to noon and raised funds for direct services provided by the [Sickle Cell Disease Association of America - Central Alabama](#) (SCDAA-Central Alabama).

The Club is honored to have **Dr. Paul Amamoo**, a prominent Birmingham pediatrician and a long-standing board member of the SCDAA-Central Alabama (currently serving as its 2nd Vice President), as one of our Club members.

Club volunteers helped to man a water station for participants to help ensure they stayed hydrated throughout the event.

Volunteers included: **Dr. Paul Amamoo, Leon Evans, Jr., Carolyn McCoy, Adrienne Pearson, Dewayne Smith, and President Sharon Wilson**, as well as **Kent Feagin** and **Ron Hall**, (along with Leon Evans & Dewayne Smith) who are Members of the **Groove Phi Groove Birmingham Grad Chapter**, which is one of our Club's "Friend of Optimists" Members!



Carolyn McCoy, Dewayne Smith, and Leon Evans with Sickle Cell Walk Club Banner.



Sharon Wilson, Dewayne Smith, Leon Evans & Dr. Paul Amamoo



Leon Evans, Dewayne Smith, Ron Hall, Sharon Wilson, Kent Feagin & Adrienne Pearson



Adrienne Pearson, Leon Evans, Sharon Wilson, and Dewayne Smith



Groove Phi Groove Birmingham Grad Chapter Members Ron Hall, Dewayne Smith, Kent Feagin, and Leon Evans, present a \$1,000 Scholarship Award for 2026 to Christopher J. Webb, Jr.

SNAPSHOTS FROM CLUB MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

YOUTH APPRECIATION PROGRAM JUNE 18, 2026

The Optimist Club of Birmingham was proud to recognize five youth in our community for their outstanding academic achievements and other extracurricular accomplishments. **Youth Appreciation Co-Chairs, Leon Evans, Jr. and Erma Hinton**, conducted the annual program at City Club Birmingham on Thursday, June 18th.

Recipients of the Youth Appreciation Award included: **Addison Grantham, Michael Anthony Hines, III, Skylar Sippola, Christian Stubbs and Harper Williams.**

The Club was honored to have **Alabama-Mississippi District Governor Mike Holt** as our distinguished guest, along with the proud family members of the award recipients.



Co-Chairs Leon Evans & Erma Hinton present Youth Appreciation Award to Harper Williams



President Sharon Wilson, along with Co-Chairs Erma Hinton & Leon Evans, congratulate Youth Appreciation Award recipients Christian Stubbs, Skylar Sippola, Michael Anthony Hines, III, Harper Williams & Addison Grantham!



Co-Chairs Erma Hinton & Leon Evans congratulate each of the Youth Appreciation Award recipients!



Co-Chairs Leon Evans & Erma Hinton present Youth Appreciation Award to Christian Stubbs



Co-Chairs Leon Evans & Erma Hinton present Youth Appreciation Award to Addison Grantham



Co-Chairs Leon Evans & Erma Hinton present Youth Appreciation Award to Michael Anthony Hines, III



Co-Chairs Leon Evans & Erma Hinton present Youth Appreciation Award to Skylar Sippola

SNAPSHOTS FROM CLUB MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES



Michael Anthony Hines, III is congratulated by his proud grandmother, Paula Hines, & President Sharon Wilson!



Christian Stubbs with his proud grandmother & father!



Harper Williams is congratulated by her proud grandmother, Sharon Wilson, & sister, Xylah Reynolds!



Having a little fun after the program!!



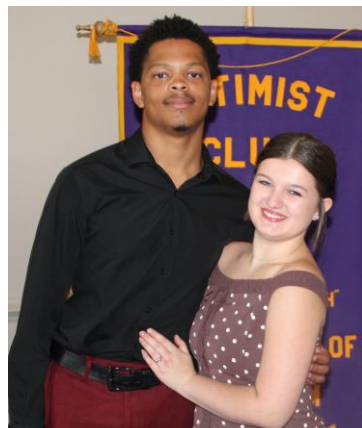
Addison Grantham is congratulated by President Sharon Wilson & her proud mom, Maranda Dancy!



Judge Patricia Stephens & Adrienne Pearson



Carolyn McCoy, Sandra Weems & Erma Hinton



Skylar Sippola is congratulated by Pres. Sharon Wilson & her boyfriend. Skylar's parents were also in attendance.



Adrienne Pearson, Ron Taylor, Erma Hinton & Carolyn McCoy

SNAPSHOTS FROM CLUB MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR BIRMINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT & OXMOOR VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Optimist Club of Birmingham Members **Nancy Ryan** & **President Sharon Wilson** were happy to brave the downpour on **July 24**, to deliver needed items for the **Birmingham Police Department's Community Outreach and Public Education Division Back to School Supply Drive!** Special thanks goes to **Officer Berry** of the **East Precinct** for greeting us at the door to receive the donations!!



Optimist Club of Birmingham members **Anita Lee**, **President Sharon Wilson**, and **Nancy Ryan** were proud to support scholars at [Oxmoor Valley Elementary School](#) by delivering some needed back to school supplies, on behalf of the Club, on Thursday, **July 30th**. There to receive the donation of supplies were **Mrs. Lakeshia Moody**, **Assistant Principal**, and **Dr. Melvin Love**, **Principal**.

CLUB KICKS OFF SILENT FUNDRAISER TO BENEFIT THE BIRMINGHAM OPTIMIST YOUTH FOUNDATION

The Optimist Club of Birmingham invites you to keep your calendar free to NOT attend our Silent Fundraiser Event... the easiest fundraiser you'll ever support!!

Your donation will help us continue to provide programs, such as our Scholarship Contests, Youth Appreciation, Respect for Law, and many others that support our mission to "...bring out the best in youth, our community, and ourselves."

Simply sit back, contribute... and Make a Difference!

The Optimist Club of Birmingham

requests the
ABSENCE
of your company
at our
SILENT FUNDRAISER!

Simply make a tax-deductible donation
by **Monday, August 31, 2026**, to:
"Birmingham Optimist Youth Foundation" (or "BOYF")

By Cash or Check
at July or August Club Meeting

Mail Check to:
700 - 71st Place South
Birmingham, AL 35206

Zelle to:
optimistfoundbham@gmail.com

Have your name entered in the drawing
at the **September 17, 2026**,
Club Meeting to win one of several
GIFT CARDS!!

(*Only 1 gift card per person. You need not be present to win.)

\$10 donation = 1 entry	\$20 donation = 2 entries	\$30 donation = 3 entries	\$40 donation = 4 entries	\$50 (or more) donation = 5 entries Gift Card to local 5★ Restaurant
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THIS IS ONE EVENT YOU'LL LOVE MISSING!

SIT BACK, CONTRIBUTE...
AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Thank You for Your Support! ♡

PLEASE NOTE: Even though there's a deadline to be entered in the drawing, tax-deductible donations are welcome anytime!!