

Optimist Club of Birmingham

The Flagship Club of the
Alabama-Mississippi District
October - November, 2024

Meets 3rd Thursday
12:00 Noon

In our 97th Year of Service to
Youth & the Community

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

**NOVEMBER 21, 12 NOON, MEETING TO BE HELD AT
ALABAMA POWER COMPANY, ELECTRA ROOM
600 18TH ST. N., BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203**

***PLEASE ARRIVE IN TIME TO PURCHASE LUNCH FROM
THE ATRIUM CAFETERIA (OR BRING YOUR OWN
LUNCH) & BE READY TO BEGIN THE MEETING AT NOON.**

A SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

The November 21 Club Meeting will feature a special program honoring our Club Members and/or their spouses who are Veterans. We are proud to salute each of you for your service to our country! Veterans, please contact Secretary **Teresa Jones** at bookthecohost@gmail.com or text 205-937-9287 to let her know your rank, branch & length of service by **Friday, November 15**. Teresa or Nancy Ryan will contact each of you with more information. Club Members are also asked to bring **NEW SOCKS** to the meeting to be given to the Salvation Army for those in need, especially during the cold months of Winter.

OCTOBER 17TH MEETING - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & DIRECTORS/ INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

The meeting featured a beautiful candle lighting ceremony conducted by our distinguished guests, **AL-MS District Governor Michael Hanshaw**, assisted by **Zone 1 Lt. Governor Vera Hendrix**, for the Installation of Club Officers & Directors including:

President – **Sharon Wilson**; Vice President of Administration & Community Affairs - **Anita Lee**; Vice President of Youth Work – **Dr. Paul Amamoo**; Secretary – **Teresa Jones**; Treasurer – **Leon Evans**; Assistant Treasurer – **Erma Hinton**; Directors – **Clara Greene, Adrienne Pearson, and Ronald Taylor**. They, along with incumbent directors, **Angene Coleman, Jacqueline Holder, and Jon Ryan**, will serve as the Board for the 2024-2025 Optimist year.

Congratulations to 2023-2024 Club President Carolyn McCoy for leading us to achieve **Distinguished Club** status!! One requirement for that honor was to increase our membership by 15 new members. **President Carolyn & Adrienne Pearson** were honored to conduct the induction ceremony for three of our newest members: **Paula Hines** (sponsored **Teresa Jones**), **Saundra Taylor** (sponsored by **Angene Coleman**), and **Judy Brown**, (sponsored by her sister, **Clara Greene**). Welcome to the Club!

President Carolyn also presented special awards to several members for the past Optimist year, including an **Optimism Ambassador Award** to **Teresa Jones** and **Adrienne Pearson**, and the **Cheerful Countenance Award** to **Roger Vaughan**.

2024-2025 Club President Sharon Wilson presented her plans and goals for the Club during the 2024-2025 Optimist year! The Club looks forward to great achievements under her leadership!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 11 – VETERANS DAY
Nov 14 – Board Meeting via Zoom, 1 PM
Nov 21 – Club Meeting, Alabama Power Co., 12 N – *A Salute to Our Veterans*
Nov 28 – HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY!!!
Dec. 3, 4, & 5 – Salvation Army Bell Ringing, 10 am – 1 pm each day outside Belk at the Summit. Volunteers will be needed to ring during 1 hour time slots.
Dec. 12 – Board Meeting on Zoom, 1 pm
Dec. 19 – Christmas Program at City Club – 12 N

MEMBER NEWS

The Optimist Club of Birmingham extends our heartfelt condolences to Club member, **Bettie Bell**, on the passing of her beloved granddaughter, **Ashlyn Lanae Wilson**, as well as to **Angene Coleman**, also a family member of **Ashlyn's**. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this most difficult time of loss.

October Birthdays: 8th – Judy Brown, 16th – Margie Argo, 22nd – Dewayne Smith, 29th – Dr. Paul Amamoo, 31st – Ken Holcomb

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

November Birthdays: 1st – Dr. Kim Carr, 11th – Valencia Flowers

Hope you each enjoy/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.

Check out this link to Youth Appreciation Day Recipient London Koi's, Official Music Video – HERO:
<https://youtu.be/QRvWJXiMTM8>

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Optimist Club, Thank you for recognizing me as the recipient of the Youth Appreciation Award. The luncheon was appreciated and so was the token given to me.
Sincerely, **Carter Holloway**

Dear Optimist Club of Birmingham, When a child unexpectedly has to go to the hospital, the family will many times arrive with only the clothes on their backs. Because of you, when they arrive to the Ronald McDonald House, they don't just have a roof over their heads – they have access to every basic amenity that was forgotten in the urgent rush to get their child to medical care. Thank you for ensuring that we can bring them this comfort and much needed respite.

You have made certain that the 73 families that stay with us every night can relax knowing that their necessities – shelter, warm meals, laundry, and more – are taken care of and at no charge to the family. Thank you again for your generosity that allows families to focus on what matters most: their child.
Gratefully, **Katherine Estes Billmeier**
President & CEO

INSTALLATION OF CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS & INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS



Installation of 2024-2025 Club Officers & Directors Ceremony. Pictured L to R: Treasurer Leon Evans, Jr., Zone 1 Lt. Gov. Vera Hendrix, Asst. Treasurer Erma Hinton, Secretary Teresa Jones, Director Adrienne Pearson, President Sharon Wilson, Director Ron Taylor, Director Clara Greene, Club Foundation Representative Roger Vaughan, Past President Carolyn McCoy, & Alabama-Mississippi District Gov. Mike Hanshaw.
Not pictured:
VP of Admin. & Community Affairs Anita Lee & VP of Youth Work Dr. Paul Amamoo



Club Foundation Representative Roger Vaughan & Board Member Clara Greene light their candles



Board Members Adrienne Pearson & Ron Taylor light their candles



2024-2025 President Sharon Wilson lights her candle during the Installation of Officers ceremony.



Secretary Teresa Jones lights her candle



Past President Carolyn McCoy lights her candle & the room with her beautiful smile!



Treasurer Leon Evans, Jr. & Asst. Treasurer Erma Hinton light their candles

INSTALLATION OF CLUB OFFICERS & DIRECTORS & INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS



**Congratulations and welcome to newly inducted members:
Paula Hines, Sandra Taylor & Judy Brown**



2023-2024 Club President Carolyn McCoy hands the gavel over to 2024-2025 Club President Sharon Wilson & presents her with a satchel to contain some of her important Optimist documents!!



Adrienne Pearson, Clara Greene & 2023-2024 President Carolyn McCoy congratulate new members Paula Hines, Sandra Taylor & Judy Brown.



Club President Sharon Wilson presents a token of appreciation to Governor Mike Hanshaw for traveling to Birmingham, along with his wife, Pat & daughter, Lois, to be with our Club on this special occasion!



2024-2024 President Carolyn McCoy presents special awards to Teresa Jones, Adrienne Pearson & Roger Vaughan! Congratulations and thank you all for your dedicated service to our Club!



Club President Sharon Wilson thanks Zone 1 Lt. Governor Vera Hendrix for joining our Club on this joyous occasion!