

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

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Prez Sez

Questions or problems,
please email me!

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Tom, the New Prez, sez thanks to all who voted for me. I know it was a long drawn out battle. A very tough race, indeed. Thanks to outgoing president, Chris Ladner for the fine job he's done the past two years. As your incoming president, I hope to continue to be optimistic and do a good job running our club. I hope we can increase our membership and continue to offer our assistance to the children and youth of our community. I will need everyone's help for we all know our club does not function with the leadership and commitment of one person. It takes a team effort and we are a team. So, let's continue to have fun and remain a pillar of our community.

Thanks, Tom

Annual dues of \$60 per member or \$40 for past presidents is due by October 9th. Please make your check payable to Optimist Club of Des Plaines and mail it to:
Optimist Club of Des Plaines, PO Box 1551, Des Plaines, IL 60017

GOVERNOR EMERY TO VISIT OCTOBER 19TH

Our club can look forward to a visit from Illinois Governor Jerry Emery on October 19th. It's been a while since we've been graced with a visit by a governor at a regular club meeting.

We are apt to forget that children watch examples better than they listen to preaching.

- Roy L. Smith

Jerry and Connie are looking forward to visiting as many clubs as possible over the next 12 months, and he is especially eager to build both JOI and adult clubs throughout the state. His own Oswego club has recently been successful in sponsoring a new club in neighboring Yorkville, and there are possibilities that one can be started in Plano.

So mark your calendar and plan to attend our meeting that night. This would be a wonderful night to bring a spouse or guest along.

Installation of Our New President

On October 5th, Tom Swanson will be sworn in as the newest president of the Optimist Club of Des Plaines. Born and raised in the southern suburb of Midlothian, Tom is the oldest of three kids. Siblings Theresa and Bob still live south, but Tom made the trek to the northwest suburbs some time ago.

Though he now resides in what is generally considered to be Cubs country, he remains a faithful Sox fan who was thrilled at the all too rare event of a Chicago team winning a world championship in 2005.

A draftsman by trade, Tom was living and working in San Diego when he met his lovely wife Colleen while relaxing at the beach. Married for 15 years, they are the proud parents of nine- year old Joey and two- year old Allison, as well as the hyperactive bundle of fur known as Jack. Jack's hobbies includes barking at planes, something he gets plenty of time to peruse considering our proximity to O'Hare. Colleen is part owner of a company called Meetings Database Institute, which works both with the hospitality industry and meeting planners to effectively plan and choose the right location for meetings, conferences and tradeshow. (cont. page 4)



Bringing out the best in kids - 2006

CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

In fact, it's only 84 days away. Ray Kopecky, chair of the Christmas Tree Lot Committee has set some important dates for club members to note.

**November 18 – trees arrive from Michigan
(247 assorted trees)**

**November 25 – trees arrive from Canada
(643 balsams and 75 bundles of boughs)**

We will need your help unloading the stock when it arrives. Ray will be announcing the times soon.

Tree sales are the lifeblood of this club. Last year, we were behind both in dollars raised and tree lot volunteers. Some quick and rough math tells us that we are open about 54 hours per week for about 28 days. That's a lot of hours to fill, but if we can start by getting members to commit to one three or four hour slot per week, it will go a long way towards getting adequate coverage. Sign up sheets will soon appear at our meetings so bring your calendar and get the choice picks.

Working at the lot doesn't require Herculean strength or endurance, just a few hours of your time. We need cashiers as well as people to make wreaths. It's important that we have at least two people at the lot at all times. As my dear old granny always used to say, "Many hands make light work." The more people who are willing to give of their time the easier it will be for everyone. So be sure to mark your calendar now and set aside some hours to help out this year. We promise you will have fun and make the day of those who come to our lot to make their Christmas tree purchase. Who knows we may even recruit some new members who can help next year with the Christmas Tree Lot!!



THE OPTIMIST CLUB 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 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

LET'S SUPPORT JOII CLUBS!

Do you remember participating as a youngster in the March of Dimes? From collecting what appeared to be small change, huge amounts of cash were raised that was used to improve the lives of children.

President-elect Ronnie Dunn has brought back the idea of using small change to make a big difference, but is asking not for dimes, but for the humble one-cent piece. The program is called, appropriately enough, "Pennies for People."

She once mentored a troubled young girl named Penny who, because of her intervention, decided not to drop out of high school, and has become a happy and well-adjusted woman of 24.

All we have to do is bring in our pennies-those unwanted coins that we wouldn't bother to pick up if we dropped and donate them to the JOII Club. Tom Swanson or Chris Ladner will then take them to a district convention where they can be turned in. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to help JOII Clubs.

This is a painless and fun way to help JOII and get rid of those coffee cans, bottles, and junk drawers filled with the smallest of coins, and give them to one of the largest of causes. Can we as a club bring in 100,000 pennies by the February conference? That would be \$1,000.00 for the kids, and a hernia for Chris or Tom. Let's do it!



Installation of New President, cont.

When not involved in things Optimist, Tom enjoys gardening, sports, and is actively involved with youth baseball, having served as a coach with his son's team. He joined our club four years ago; having been recruited by Jim Woods, and almost immediately began to serve on the board.

In July, our new leader attended the international convention in Nashville, where he was amazed at the scope of O.I. as a whole, and of the vitality of the organization. He has set a goal of increasing membership, keeping on doing the good work that we do, and perhaps most importantly, of having fun while doing it.

UpComing Dates

- Oct. 5th – Next Meeting - Installation of New Officers**
- Oct. 19th – Governor's Visit**
- Nov. 5th – Spaghetti Dinner**
- Nov. 18th and 25th – delivery of trees to lot**