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Pipeline Newsletter



Optimist Club of Des Plaines

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A Whale of a Good Time!

Our Fishing Derby has been a part of our programs for Youth for many years. I am sure that there are many in our club who can tell this editor exactly when (since I wasn't there). In fact, Dick Hissong, who started and sponsored it for many years, would be the first to do this. However, it is not so much about how long, but about how successful this event is.

Success can be measured in many ways. When it comes to fishing, or as some of us call it, catching, it can be measured in how many fish are in the cooler (or have been released). It can also be measured by the friendship and companionship that you have whenever you are with friends, and will have nothing at all to do with whether or not you have "limited out."

This year's event was blessed with wonderful weather. It was a picture perfect day and the youth turned out like never before to pound the waters of Lake Opeka. You could see from the smiles on their faces, and their parents' faces, that they were just happy to be there, most of them fishing for the very first time.

Our official registrar, Glenn Swanson, recorded 79 who showed up to receive

a club shirt, bait, prizes, and, of course, those fabulous hot dogs, grilled to perfection.

We often times list all of the club members that attend and help, or just hang out. In this case, don't be disappointed if your name is not listed. We had lots of participation and everyone was helping in some way or other.



Should we keep him, or throw him back?

Later on in this issue you will meet our newest member, Diane Graham. Even though she was not a member at the time of the Fishing Derby, she was still on hand to help out.

It was also good to see Mike Schimka and his wife. Mike, who always does things in a big way, did more than just show up. He brought one of his fabulous tow trucks, the ones

that tow semis. He decorated it and it was parked there to remind folk who were passing by that the Optimist Club of Des Plaines had "Gone Fishin'."

Thanks, Ray Bochat, for once again helping us to help the youth of our community to discover the joys of fishing. Even though there were no trophies taken, we all had a whale of a good time!

Meetings

Our first meeting of the month was also the last one that we will have at the Elk's Club until September. It was very well attended and we heard reports about the Fishing Derby and plans for the Fourth of July Parade.

Our second meeting was held at Steve Meinecke's house and heralded the beginning of our Summer's Outdoor Meetings. Ed Welther was Steve's Captain and did a superb job as we had a choice of either sirloin or chicken.

This was sure good eatin', as was the special friendship that happens as our club gathers to enjoy a beverage and food cooked on an open fire. Ah, there is nothing like the great outdoors!

We had a wonderful turnout and it didn't seem to be much of a problem for members to bring their own lawn chair. The club, Tom Swanson and the Magnussons have provided tables that proved to be more than adequate.

Besides all of the above, we had the pleasure to welcome a new member, Diane Graham, into our midst. Diane has already begun to "fit in" with her friendly smile and personality. If you have not yet had the opportunity, be sure to welcome her into the club.

Our meetings in July will consist of the Parade on the Fourth and on July 21st we will meet at Prez Chris' Chateau which is located at 197 Warrington. I, myself, put a premium on the time that I can spend, like this, with good friends in fellowship. We hope to be able to share this time with you.

Hot Dogs

Once again we want to thank the Kelly Eisenberg company for their generous donation of their gourmet hot dogs, which we provide for both youth and adults at all of our spring and summer activities.



Next time you bite into one, try closing your eyes and you just may be able

(except for Tom Swanson and Andy Piscitello) to see Wrigley Field, as these are the same hot dogs that feed the Cubs Faithful each summer.

So, thanks again, Kelly Eisenberg and also thanks to our own Kay Welther, as it is her cousin that works for this fabulous company.

New Members

Diane Graham is our newest member as our club moves forward to that vaunted status of Honor Club. (We only need four more!)



Diane has already distinguished herself by helping us at our Fishing Derby, prior to being inducted.

When asked to provide us with some information we could share, her email said: I was born, raised, and lived in Chicago, am retired from SBC and have worked in Special Ed in the Los Angeles, CA area for four years. I am now working part time for the Marriott Corp.

I am the mother of one married daughter, who lives in Allentown, PA. and am the grandmother of two.

Diane has also told us that she is not interested, necessarily in being a leader, but that she sure would like to be a helper. Well, guess what, we always need helpers and are so happy to welcome Diane to the Optimist Club of Des Plaines!

Punch Line

At our outdoor, Dianna told a joke, but couldn't remember the punch line. Here it is, "Yes, he said, they are retired prostitutes and they are having a yard sale."

Please see Dianna if you missed out on the rest of it.

July Birthdays



We have members who are celebrating a birthday this month.

They are:

Ernie Challberg
Vern Luebbers
Paul Magnusson
Eric Suevel
Stan Walgreen
Kay Welther

We wish them the very best!
Many Happy Returns of the Day!

Scholarships

A few years ago, Bill Atherton had the idea that we should recognize eighth graders that are examples of someone who lives a life that exemplifies the Optimist Creed. These are students who are chosen by their school's faculty and administration.

We did not award these scholarships last year and have now reinstated this program. Each eighth grade scholarship winner received \$100. Two graduating seniors at Maine West were awarded \$1,000 each. The students also received a plaque of the Creed, which we hope will not only serve as a reminder of this honor, but will also inspire their future progress.

Receiving these awards this year were Emily Ott, Algonquin Middle School; Maggie McCabe, Chippewa Middle School; Edward Gaskew, Immanuel Lutheran; Megan Traeger, Iroquois Community School, Christina Courtney, St. Zachary's; and Rachel Straub and Brian Aloisio from Maine West. If you know any of these outstanding young people, please take the opportunity to congratulate them. These awards were given based upon character, not scholarship.

We want to thank Dianna Edwards, who headed up this committee this year. Prez Chris and Paul Magnusson assisted her. In fact, there was one day when all three were out in the community, not only presenting scholarships, but letting parents and friends of the graduates know about that important part of our lives that we know as The Optimist Creed.

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.

Christian D. Larson





Three of our members are celebrating their anniversaries this month.

They are:

Stacey and Paul Magnusson (11)
and
Eric Suevel (20)

We wish them the happiest of happys on their special day!

We hope we haven't missed anyone.

Fourth of July Parade

Our club will once again put "our best foot forward" as we participate in this year's parade celebrating our nation's independence. Ten years ago, Jerry Warchol recruited a band of fearless Optimists to serve in a Precision Shopping Cart Brigade. Jerry has gone back to his files, and brought forth those intricate formations and drills that brought the club so much notoriety.

The Brigade has already had intensive and exhaustive rehearsal preparing for this event. They are reminded to report to the K-Mart parking lot at 9:15 AM on the Fourth to decorate their cart (Ed Welther is bringing the fixins for your cart, as well as the candy for us to give out on the parade route, thanks, Ed).

Members who would like to walk along, helping to distribute candy to the children along the route and water to those in the Brigade that may need it, should plan to gather at Romano's parking lot at 10 AM.

The uniform should be Optimist shirts, and

red, white and blue, white shorts/pants if you have them.

On-the-Mend

Vern Luebbers is home (his two cats were so glad to see him) and is feeling better, but is still not ready to sign up for ballroom dancing lessons. He has extensive therapy sessions that are helping him to strengthen and learn to use this new knee replacement.

He says that he will be at the parade, cheering us on from curb side. He looks forward, as do we, to being able to attend the next outdoor.

Errata

Thanks to Stan Walgreen for catching a date error in our last issue. Our August Outdoor Meetings will take place on August 4 and 18. All of the location information is correct.

Golfing for Youth

Stan Walgreen will need lots of help to work the Golf Outing on August 10 (Wed.). There will be two shifts, 6:30 - 11 AM and 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM. Please email Stan, swalgreen@wideopenwest.com, or call him at (847) 652-7005 if you can help.

The Des Plaines National Bank and our own Peggy Higgins will once again provide water and bottles. Thanks, Peggy!



Members of the Brigade listen to instructions, as their fearless leader, Jerry, reveals the secret art of precision drill.

**Pictures that celebrate our pledge to be
a
Friend of Youth**



First Fish



The banks were full of fisher folk



Just Fishin'



This kite will soon be soaring high



Kite Flying makes you hungry!



Yeah, this is fun, for youth and members



Success!!!

Pictures from the Kite Fly were taken by Denny Vernola, thanks!

Friend of Youth



Coming Events

- July 4 - **Parade** - Romano's, 10 AM (this is a half hour earlier than previously reported)
- July 21 - **Meeting** - at the Ladner's, 197 Warrington, 6:45 PM
- July 28 - **Board Meeting** - at the Ladner's, 197 Warrington, 7 PM (we are **not** meeting at St. Martin's)
- August 4 - **Meeting** at the Magnusson's, 175 N. Wolf Road (you can park on Wolf), 6:45 PM. This will be a spouse's/significant other meeting.



Prez Sez

"If you have zest and enthusiasm, you attract zest and enthusiasm. Life does give back in kind." - Norman Vincent Peale

While reading an AARP magazine, (not that I'm anywhere near old enough to be a member) I found an article that shows yet another benefit to being an Optimist - we live longer. The Mayo Clinic tracked 800 Minnesota residents over a 30 year period, and found that those who tested high on a "pessimism scale" had a 19 point increase in premature death. In

addition, the study found that Optimists tend to be more successful at work, school, sports, and relationships. I guess it's really a no brainer. Poor outlooks in life will doom a person to failure before the game even begins.

I think I'll be in an ocean of Optimism July 6th - 10th. I'm looking forward to Dixie beer, hurricanes from Pat O'Brien's, Creole cuisine, Cajun food, fresh fish and shrimp, great music...and I guess a workshop or two. I'll report back on all I learned and experienced in the August issue.

Thanks to all who donated items to the garage sale. My favorite item, a Sharper Image back massager, came courtesy of Rich and Stevie Rogers. My kids tried it, and it never made it into the sale, however \$20 was given to the cause. Second favorite would have to be the trampoline, also courtesy of the Roger's. I have no idea what room it came from. Some questions are best left unasked.

Our world famous International Precision Shopping Cart Drill Team had its first practice in K-Mart's spacious parking lot on June 20th. Figure eights and double figure eights were executed with grace and beauty under the direction of Jerry Warchol. Well, perhaps not grace and beauty, but fun will be had at all at the parade on July 4th. The best moment came when a young couple watched us intently as we gyrated and cavorted our way through the lot. They then asked, "are you guys on strike against K-Mart?"

Can we get four more members by October 1st? If we do, we'll have a net + 1 in membership, and that will qualify us as an honor club. We've had the pleasure of welcoming many new members in the past few months, and I'd love to have us achieve that special status.

As we all head into our summer of vacations, travel, and fun, I wish you all good health, safe journeys, and continued Optimism.