

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

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Thoughts from President Tom

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Volunteering is good for the
soul-Steve Allen

Hello Optimists,

As I sit down here at my computer to write my final Pres says article I am amazed at how fast my two year term as your President went by. I learned a lot about how to run this club. I learned about how much time and effort are required to keep things running smoothly and on schedule. I know in my two terms that there were some things I did well and some not so well. God only knows that I tried hard and that my heart was in the right spot.

I thank all the board members who served along side me both terms. Without them I would not have achieved the success needed to guide this club. We ran this club as a team. I trusted their knowledge and respected their thoughts and opinions. Together, we were able to continue to serve the youth of this community. I will work along side Zack and the new board members to insure a smooth transition. I know Zack will do a great job in leading this club. His youth and energy are exactly what this club needs in order for us to grow and attract younger membership into the club. I hope all of you will be as patient with Zack as you were with me. I will always cherish the memories I have as being your Club President along with all the friendships I have made by being a member of this club.

Thank you again for the opportunity of being your Club President.

Tom



PAY FOR THE PRIVILEGE, PLEASE

Dues statements will soon be going out. Once again, we'll be asking for members to come up with sixty bucks for the pleasure of being an Optimist. For life members, it's forty, and for full time college members, just twenty. What a deal! Even at sixty dollars, it comes to sixteen cents a day, and where else can you have this kind of fun for that kind of money? Please pay promptly-it really helps our secretary and treasurer do their work.

GOLF FINALE

There were plenty of Optimists to assist the 125 youth who participated in our annual golf outing on August 6th. Many thanks to Stan Walgreen for so ably running this event, and to all those who helped make it successful.

CHEERS FOR LIBERTY COMPUTER CENTRE

Liberty Computer Centre, the business owned by club members John and Ruth Del Re, is celebrating its 30th anniversary. To show their appreciation for all their business, the Del Re's are offering free computer repair for any deployed serviceman currently on leave or their spouse. That's what I call supporting the troops in a wau more meaningful than a window decal.

NEW MEETING PLACE

After many years, we decided to leave the Elks Club and begin meeting in a new venue. Remember, the September 4h meeting will be at Giuseppe's at 6:30. Hope you can make it!

**It is by spending oneself that one becomes rich-Sarah
Bernhardt**

GOOD TIMES FOR A GOOD CAUSE

One of the great events at any Optimist district conference is the live and silent auctions. The live auctions are conducted by former governor Corky Helms, a retired school principal, longhorn cattle breeder, and one fast talking auctioneer.

At the last conference in Bloomington , two of Judy Ladner's original watercolors sold for almost \$500.00. The grand total for the day was over \$2,000.00.

The beneficiary of all this commerce is the Optimist International Foundation. If there was no foundation, there would be no scholarships for essay, golf, and oratorical winners, no money for cancer research, and many other important programs would cease.

Do you have handicrafts, interesting household items and other treasures (such as a Mary Kay gift basket-this is a hint, Stacey Magnusson) that you would be willing to donate?

It all goes to a fantastic cause and Chris Ladner will be willing to tote your goodies to the next conference in November, so donate early and often.

IT'S OFFICIAL

At the Bloomington conference on August 16th, your editor was elected governor. I will begin a one-year term on October 1, 2009. It's a natural progression I guess from board member to President to Lt. Governor and so on, but none of it would be possible if three things didn't happen:

Eight years ago, Stacey Magnusson "just asked" me to join the club. Thanks, Stacey...I think.

1. I found that Optimists are some of the best people I have ever met, and discovered that giving back to the community is a reward in itself.
2. I had the support of everyone I've come in contact with in this organization.

I hope to see more Des Plaines members at conventions and to serve in key positions in this organization.

I will begin a one-year term as assistant governor to Stan Knecht beginning October 1st, and in April of 2009 Judy and I will begin some rigorous training to learn everything about the position we need to succeed.



IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT MONEY

The Culver's fundraiser brought us twenty-five dollars. Not a fortune, but it cost nothing and we can always promote more aggressively next time. There are a number of restaurants that offer a percentage of sales for organizations such as ours. Wendy's, Photo's, Charcoal Delights, Krispy Kreme, and Cheeseburger in Paradise are among them. Cheeseburger has an especially interesting one that promises 100 per cent of the proceeds to the organization. It's a bit more involved than others, but still an easy one to put on.

It will soon be committee night. The club needs a post of fundraising chair created, and a person who can think of various ways to fund our club to augment our Christmas tree and pasta dinner income to run it. Will you volunteer?

Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul,

And sings the tune without the words and never stops at all - Emily Dickinson
