

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

Newsletter Date June 1st, 2008

Thoughts from President Tom

Inside This Issue

Chris Ladner, editor
Chris.ladner@oce.com
www.dpoptimist.org

Pres Sez -Pg 1

New president pg 2

Upcoming events-Pg 3

Important dates-pg 4

"Life is never so busy that there
is no time to serve" -Sharon Tan

What's for Dinner

June 5th Chicken Marsala

Greetings fellow Optimists,

All is well from the top. I am pleased at the direction that our club is headed. Our membership is steadily increasing and interest in what we do is on the rise. The fishing derby was a success. The wind held the fish away but the children and their parents didn't seem to mind. Ray Bochat did another fantastic job chairing this event. Ray does so much for this club and for the children of this community. What a blessing he is to us. Thank you to all the members who gave their time to this event as well.

My family and I attended the Memorial Day parade and ceremony at Lake Park this past weekend. Don Moran deserves kudos for chairing that event. If you missed it you can see it on the public access channel sometime this week. Thank you to those members who came out to honor all the fallen men and women who sacrificed their lives so that we can enjoy all the freedom and good things we have in this country. Thank you also to those club members who have served this country as well.

Hopefully it will warm up in time for our first outdoor meeting to be held at my house on June 19th. It sure has been a brutal stretch of cool weather we have had. Our last indoor is June 5th over at the Elk's Club. If you have not been to a meeting in some time I urge you to come on out and enjoy some food, fun and company and let us know how your doing. That's all I have for now, I hope to see soon.

Yours in Optimism,

Tom

NEW PRESIDENT AND BOARD ELECTED



Our club elected a new president on May 1st, and made quite a name for ourselves in doing so. Zack Ladner, 18, has become the youngest president in club, district, and possibly Optimist history. He will assume office on October 1st.

Th Des Plaines Journal thought this a significant enough story to make it a page one lead article, we will be featured in the upcoming edition of the district bulletin, and the Optimist magazine may run a feature in their October edition.

Congratulatory messages were also received from Maine West Principal Dr. Audrey Haugen and 57th District State Representative Elaine Nekritz.

It takes a leap of faith to entrust our club to a very young president, but if we are to show the public that we are indeed the friend of youth, we must act accordingly. Also elected to the board were Ruth Del Re, Ray Bochat, Steve Meinecke, Chris Ladner, Stan Catlett, Dianna Edwards and Judy Ladner.

IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS

It was an extremely windy Memorial Day, but less than perfect weather didn't spoil the ceremony at Lake Park on May 26th.



Optimists Don Moran, Bill Baxmann, President Tom Swanson, President-Elect Zack Ladner, Steve Meinecke, Tom Meyer, and Al Bayer participated in the parade, and there were several more of us gathered in the crowd to remember and honor those who have and do serve in our nation's armed forces.

One of the goals of an Optimist club is to promote patriotism, and there's not a group of people more deserving of our respect than the veterans.





UPCOMING EVENTS

There is a very special Chamber of Commerce Event on July 8th at Oakton Community College. This is designed specifically for non- profit groups to meet and exchange ideas. This is a great chance for us to meet and greet fellow volunteers and perhaps devise programs that are mutually beneficial. There will be more information in the July Pipeline, but keep that night open!

On July 4th, we will once again participate in the Independence Day parade. We are fortunate to have retained the services of Commander, or maybe it's General Jerry Warchol and Stacey Magnusson as directors of the soon to be famous kazoo band.

Comprised of students from Chippewa Middle School, this group is sure to stun and amaze the crowd along the route. If you remember back a few years, we had a soon to be famous shopping cart drill team, also under the tutelage of Commander Warchol. For that, we took the title of best marching unit, so we expect nothing less this time.

Our July 4th work won't stop when the parade ends. We will be selling chips, soda, water, and possibly candy, ice cream, and the wonderful sounding "taco in a bag" at Oakton Community College. Although your editor, president elect Zack, and Treasurer elect Judy will be in Dallas for convention, we will be with you in spirit. Look for more information in the July Pipeline.

Summertime means vacations and wonderful outdoor meetings as we begin our break from Elks cuisine. The June 5th meeting will be the last of the season at the Elks. Tom Swanson will host the first outdoor on June 19th at his home at 350 Cambridge in Des Plaines.

For our new members, these meetings are brief, enjoyable, and the food is superb. I urge all to attend.

THE STATE OF THE CLUB

The constant urging of clubs to add members can get redundant to those who attend district events, but without membership that continually grows, we are a dying organization. The state is down 120 members as of 5/30/08, and although we've added John and Ruth Del Re and Gabriel Delgado recently, we are still down three members from 10/01/07. We currently have 42 members. The expected addition of James and Rita Saldanha will bring us to within one of the October 1st figure.

Who do you know who would like to join? We need to always extol the virtues of being an Optimist, and grow, grow, grow. The Highland club has 142 members, and they only have 9,433 in their town! Let's grow!



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

We have four of us celebrating their anniversaries this month. Congratulations to Ray Kopecky, Norm Voss, Tom Swanson, and Bill Baxmann.

People we need to sing happy birthday to this month are Charlie Schmidt, Steve Meinecke, Bob Bochat, and Zack Ladner, who will be 19 on the 19th.

DATES TO REMEMBER

June 19th 1st Outdoor Meeting Tom Swanson's

July 4th: Parade and Fireworks

July 8th Chamber of Commerce Event

July 17th 2nd Outdoor Meeting Dianna Edwards

August 7th Third Outdoor Meeting Stacey Magnusson's

August 13th Youth Golf Outing, Lake Park

August 21st Final Outdoor Meeting Chris and Judy Ladner's

LEADERS NEED TO BE OPTIMISTS. THEIR VISION IS BEYOND THE PRESENT-RUDY GIULIANI

