

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

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PRES SAYS

Editor: Markay Suevel
emschurch@msn.com

Do you carry your optimism with you daily? Not the “I see the glass as half full type, which seems trite, but the inspirational words of the creed. I have a copy of the creed on my cubicle overhead, and twice coworkers have stated that they find it moving. (sadly, they don’t live in our area)

I try as hard as possible to live it. When successful, I feel that I’ve defeated jealousy, anger, greed, and a number of other ills that always work against my attempts to have a healthy world view. I did some research into the life of the author of our creed, and found some interesting items.

Christian D. Larson was an influential New Thought leader, teacher and author who believed that with the proper attitude people could harness their tremendous latent powers for success. He wrote the Creed in 1912, and it first appeared in his book, **Your Forces and How to Use Them**. Optimist International adopted it in 1922, and it has been used by coaches to motivate their players and by hospitals in efforts to assist recovering patients.

When O.I. adopted the Creed, the final two lines were dropped. They are as inspirational as anything else in it, so it is a mystery as to why it was abridged:

“To think well of yourself and to proclaim this fact to the world, not in loud words, but in great deeds
To live in the faith that the whole world is on your side, so long as you are true to the best that is in you.”

It would be interesting to see the reaction if an amendment were to be proposed at the next International that would restore the deleted sentences. It was in St Louis that a major ruckus was created when one club suggested changing “forget the mistakes” to “learn from mistakes.” The only thing that spared the sponsor physical harm was a lack of tar and feathers. Whether it’s the original version or the condensed one, the creed as a motivational and recruiting tool cannot be overlooked. May we always keep it with us.

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NEWS FROM NASHVILLE

Our incoming president, Tom Swanson, (can it be possible that I have only 60 days left in my term?) had the pleasure of attending the international convention July 5th-9th. His thoughts are in the article below. The biggest proposed change was soundly defeated. The renewal plan was vague and a radical change from our standard operating procedure, and I sincerely doubt it will be brought up at Montreal in 2007. Montreal, by the way, is supposed to be one awesome city. How about a group trip to Canada? Some amendments that I had hoped would pass, such as proxy voting, tying minimum membership to community size, and allowing non- voting membership for youth if there is no JOll club to serve them were also defeated. Full details can be found on O.I.'s website www.optimistinternational.org.

"Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see."

*--John W. Whitehead
[The Stealing of American, 1983](#)*



*Bringing out the best in kids -
2006*

A Few Thoughts from Tom Swanson on the Optimist International Convention

The 2006 Nashville Optimist convention was filled with fun and optimism. Every club member should attend a convention at least once in their life. It was exciting to see how all the clubs from around the country came to share in optimism and at the same time be able to experience how business is run on the international level. I met a lot people across the country doing great things for the youth of our nation. We should be proud of the great job we, as a club, do here in Des Plaines. Remember, we are volunteers and every one of us is an important part to our club and our community. It takes a special person to put aside their own agenda and volunteer his/her time to something that really makes a difference in the lives of others. Thanks to all of you, I'm proud to be a member of the Optimist Club of Des Plaines.

Mark Your Calendars for the Month of August

August 3rd Outdoor Meeting Ray Bochat's 2230 S Pine

August 9th Golf outing Lake Park

August 17th Last outdoor Meeting Location TBA

August 24th Board Meeting Chris Ladner's 197 N Warrington Rd.

September 7th Regular Meeting Elk's Club

The next outdoor meeting will be held at Ray Bochat's 2230 S Pine on August 3rd.. The turnout at Dianna Edward's meeting on July 20th was disappointing to say the least. I understand there were perhaps 15 members there, though weather may have been a factor. I was in California enjoying a family vacation and unable to attend.

To avoid the issues of too much or too little food, PLEASE EITHER CALL RAY AT 847 296 0988 OR EMAIL HIM AT RBOCHAT@SBCGLOBAL.NET to let him know if you'll attend.

The second and final meeting will be at Ed Welther's, or his son Phil's on Warrington on August 17th. As soon as a firm location is known, I'll pass the word.

That would mean, of course, that we will be once experiencing the fine cuisine at the Elk's Club. Our first indoor meeting is scheduled for September 7th. I'll be setting up a meal planning meeting with Randy so that those who opt not to have the featured selection can order fish. I'll also get price information. With gas at \$3.25 a gallon, I would not be surprised to see a price increase, so be prepared.

GOD BLESS THE IRS

After careful consideration of all the documents provided, or perhaps consulting their seer and a Ouija board, the tax professionals at the Internal revenue Service have graciously bestowed Optimist International with tax exempt status. This will make it much easier, presumably, to get donations from local businesses. Of course, there are a few caveats included, or it just wouldn't be doing business with the government. They include:

Additional forms to be completed for exempt consideration if your club funds itself by gaming activities. We don't, but we need to be aware of that if we ever do casino nights.

Additional forms to be completed for tax exempt consideration if your club has net income in excess of \$25,000.00. We don't, but wouldn't that be a nice problem?

The wait was long, I'm sure for O.I. the bureaucracy maddening, but we have the status we sought, and that is a great thing.

TIME TO TEE-OFF THE YOUTH!



The dog days of summer are upon us, but being Optimists we aren't about to let a bit of hot and humid weather stop us from doing the things that we love. Our golf outing is scheduled for August 9th, and I'm confident that we'll have a great turnout of both members and youth. This event, with the enthusiastic support of the Des Plaines Park District, has become extremely popular. I believe participation topped 100 last year, once again setting a record. I'm informed that Peggy Higgins and the Des Plaines National Bank will once again provide water for thirsty participants.

We will need help with registration, cooking, handing out prizes and such. I worked this event last year, and it gives you a great chance to chat with club members that you may not always have a chance to talk to. I'll do my best to be there, though my available vacation days are few. I know that we'll have a huge turnout of youth. Can we get enough club members to help out?

SUPPORT PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH

In memory of Paul, Stacey Magnusson will be taking part in a walk to promote funds for pancreatic cancer research on August 6th. This is one of those sponsored walks. If you go to www.pancan.org/chicagowalk you can select her name and make an easy and secure on line donation. Stacey has set a very modest \$125.00 goal for this event. Paul was a friend to us all and I would love for her to raise four times that or more. Let's open up our wallets for this important and very worthy cause.

*Every child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged of humankind.
--Rabindranath Tagore*

JULY 4TH WRAP UP

Our July 4th parade entry, which was "Marching down the Street Making Random Noise" apparently didn't capture the fancy of the judges this year, as we received no awards. No matter, because all who participated had a good time, and a hearty thank you to all those who did, especially Don Moran for buying instruments and Steve Meincke for playing band director. And to think some local crackpots have been writing to the Journal and complaining about there being no music. Perhaps next year we can resurrect our famed shopping cart drill team or build a float. Ideas, anyone? I know it's early but as the Boy Scouts say "be prepared"!

