

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

Newsletter Date February 1, 2008

Thoughts from President Tom

Hello Optimist club members.

I hope everyone is staying warm these days. Only 52 days or so until spring enters in. As busy as all of us are, that will go by extremely quick. In a few short months we will be enjoying our backyard barbecues once again.

Oratorical is off to an overwhelming start. Chris and Judy have informed me that there are over 35 children participating in this event. They just keep coming. Please check with the two of them to see if they can use any help.

The board and I met Thursday January 24th at the golf center. In an effort to reduce what we currently are paying for meals at the Elks club. We have decided to hold our board meetings at various establishments until we find an alternative site for our club meetings. Our goal is to see where we can get a good meal at a better price and have new surroundings. This is still in its preliminary stage. I will report to the club when we have made a decision. Remember all club members are welcome at board meetings.

Dianna has volunteered to chair our spaghetti dinner this year. She is currently busy trying to book the date which will be sometime in the middle of April. It will probably be at Trinity Lutheran Church again.

Our first meeting in February is a bring your spouses/ significant other night. If you are single please bring a date. This is our Valentine celebration meeting. I would like to see all our members that night.

Dianna has fun and frolics planned for the evening. I have also invited a few guests to join us. If you have someone in mind that you like to invite to this meeting please bring them along. Also extend the invite to their spouse or significant other as well. Don was contacting the K-mart people so we could give them a plaque thanking them for the use of the space for our annual tree lot. If you have not been to a meeting in a while please come on out and enjoy a night out with your optimist friends. That's all I have to say for now, Hope to see you next meeting.

Tom

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Upcoming Events

February 10th Budget Meeting at

Tom Swanson's 2.00

February 28th Board meeting-Silver

Stallion 6:30 pm

Feb 7th Dinner:
Prime Rib, onion soup,
spinach salad, carrot cake

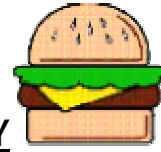
Jan 21st dinner: Pork roast,
minestrone, chocolate
mousse

The best way to find
yourself is to lose yourself
in the service of others

Ghandi



EAT DRINK AND RAISE MONEY



The need for raising money to fund our projects never ends, and there are dozens of ways to earn income for our club. Some, like the tree lot require a dedicated committee head, and the help of dozens of club members.

Others are easier, and some are so easy, it's ridiculous.

With an eye on the "ridiculous" we contacted Photo's Hot Dogs and More, and on Saturday, **February 23rd**, they will be donating 25% of the sale of every person who mentions the ***Optimist Club of Des Plaines***.

Photo's is at Kensington and Wolf in Mt. Prospect. They have hot dogs, great burgers, gyros, and some fantastic chicken sandwiches among other things on their menu. Go for lunch or dinner, bring a friend, and convince strangers to mention the ***Optimist Club of Des Plaines*** when ordering

Other fund raising ideas include a similar eat and raise money event at **Culver's**, and our annual spaghetti dinner is being planned. It will once again be held at Trinity Lutheran, and the details will be available by the time the next Pipeline is published.

What's your fundraising idea? A group garage sale? Auction? Golf event? Whatever it is, don't let its light hide under a bushel. Talk to a board member, bring it up at a meeting, and let's see the dollars roll in.

SHOULD ELKS BE ENDANGERED?

Between the recent increases to \$15.00, indifferent service, and spotty food quality, complaints about the Elk's club cuisine have been heard. The January board meeting was at the Des Plaines Golf center, and if their eight buck pasta special is typical of their quality, then we have to give serious consideration to a change in venue. The February board meeting will be at Silver Stallion, and we will continue to investigate the locale that best suits our needs.



ORATORICAL NEWS

Our 2008 Oratorical contest is moving along smoothly. Working in both one on one, small group, and general sessions, our record number of kids are giving amazingly well-developed and polished speeches, and we still have a month to go! After our general session on February 1st, this is the remaining schedule: The date of the regional is not yet established.

February 8 th	One on One
February 15 th	General Session
February 22 nd	General Session
February 29 th	Boy's Preliminary
March 7 th	Girl's Preliminary
March 14 th	Final

Due to the large number of participants, we will conduct two boy's preliminaries in two meeting rooms of the Des Plaines library. This means six judges and two time keepers each for the preliminary rounds. Chairman Chris has three boy judges in place, and has contacted the Toastmasters for three more. On the girl's side, we have one judge and need another five. One slot remains for the final.

Club members can judge a preliminary event. If you would like to be involved on February 29th or March 7th, or if you know anyone willing to volunteer three hours of their time, please contact Chris at 847-827-1444 or chris.ladner@oce.com.

BUDGET MEETING PLANNED

It's time to debate and consider things monetary once again. The annual budget meeting will be held at Tom Swanson's on February 10th at two. Tom promises to make this chore more pleasant with a pot of chili and appropriate beverage. All club members are welcome.

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY....



We have two birthday girls in the month of February. Happy 29th (ahem) birthday to Mary Alice Wenzl and Diane Graham. On the boy's side, happy birthday to Norm Voss, Ray Fiddelke, and Don Moran.

Where's the love....

This is the second month in a row that there are no anniversaries that I know of. Perhaps more romance will bloom in March.

A FEW HOLIDAY APPROPRIATE JOKES

Sweet Nothings (.com)

My boyfriend and I met online and we'd been dating for over a year. I introduced Hans to my uncle, who was fascinated by the fact that we met over the Internet. He asked Hans what kind of line he had used to pick me up. Ever the geek, Hans naively replied, "I just used a regular 56K modem."

Irresistible Irony

About a year had passed since my amicable divorce, and I decided it was time to start dating again. Unsure how to begin, I thought I'd scan the personals column of my local newspaper. I came across three men who seemed like they'd be promising candidates. A couple of days later, I was checking my answering machine and discovered a message from my ex-husband. "I was over visiting the kids yesterday," he said. "While I was there I happened to notice you had circled some ads in the paper. Don't bother calling the guy in the second column. I can tell you right now it won't work out. That guy is me."

Making the Grade

My high-school English teacher was well known for being a fair, but hard, grader. One day I received a B minus on a theme paper. In hopes of bettering my grade and in the spirit of the valentine season, I sent her an extravagant heart-shaped box of chocolates with the pre-printed inscription: "BE MINE." The following day, I received in return a valentine from the teacher. It read: "Thank you, but it's still BE MINE-US"