

# Pipeline Newsletter

## Optimist Club of Des Plaines

Newsletter Date June 1, 2007

### **PRES SEZ**

Hello fellow Optimist members. I hope all is going well with each and every one of you. To give you an update of some recent happenings, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 a few of us attended the Des Plaines Super Star Volunteer Dinner at Casa Royale, which was presented by the City of Des Plaines Special Events Commission. Our club was nominated as Community Leader Super Star. Although we eventually lost out to the V.F.W. Post, it was still an honor to be recognized by the city for all that we do within this community. Maybe next time.

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                  Golf Tournament

We had a great turnout at the Kite Fly. Many of our volunteers came out to help with kite-making and serving lunch to all that came to enjoy this event. It was a nice windy day so the kites were flying high and all the kids were having a ball. There were many prizes handed out and all went away with a little something to remember the day.

Our club was represented in the Memorial Day parade as we walked the parade and also presented a wreath at the Ceremony at Lake Park, honoring all the men and women who have faithfully served this country. Thanks to Don Moran and the others who helped organize our efforts and involvement in such an important event.

Regarding some of the events coming up this summer, I wanted to share that we have an opportunity to raise funds at the Fourth of July fireworks event at Oakton College. There is a parade downtown. This is still in the planning stage right now but should soon be a reality and I will share the details as they unfold.

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Stan Walgreen, our Junior Golf Chairman is already busy setting up our Junior Golf Event, which takes place on August 8<sup>th</sup>. I believe over 100 kids are already registered for the event. I am sure it will be another successful year as we bring our services to the community with this popular event.

On another golf note, Ray Bochat and Dianna Edwards have set up a member golf outing at the Golf Center at River Road and Golf Road for Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Tee times are available at 1:30pm and 3:30pm. The cost is \$35.00 for nine holes of golf and a buffet style dinner afterwards. We still need to fill 30 slots for this event; I believe mostly for the 3:30pm time. Bring a friend or relative and come on out and enjoy an afternoon of golf, food and fun.

As you know, the summer season is upon us. Time to be moving our meetings outdoors to member's homes, being all too gracious to host these events. Our summer agenda is shaping up to be a busy one once again. With the summer Barbeque Season quickly

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### † CRAPPIES AND BLUEGILL AND PERCH, OH MY!

Our annual Fishing Derby was held on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was a beautiful day to slip a worm on a hook and try your luck at Lake Park.

Over 40 youngsters and their parents agreed with this thought, and dozens of fish were pulled from the waters. While some were as big as 12 inches, most were in the six- inch range, but size did not seem to matter. The thrill of catching and releasing was enough.

Lunch was once again provided, and there were some great prizes as well.

This is one of our older and more popular offerings to the public. We were set up under the shade of the Optimist picnic shelter, a gift from us to the Park District some years ago, and when you see the amount of youth that turned out it makes you realize just how important we are to the City of Des Plaines.



*Bringing out the best in kids -  
2006*

## Let's go fly a kite!

The past three weeks have been busy for our club. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, our annual kite fly was held at Lake Park. The weather cooperated, providing a stiff wind that challenged everybody to keep their kites away from the dreaded kite-eating trees.

New member Tom Rivers was pressed into service as a kite maker, and proved quite adept at the task.

More than 40 children participated in the event, and a surprise visit by the good folks from the D.P. Fire Department added to their enjoyment. Our hot dog lunch and plenty of prizes provided the crowning touch.

Our club has hosted this event for many, many years, and it always attracts dozens of kids, and their parents as well. Some things cannot be replaced by video games, and the basic enjoyment of flying a kite on a windy day is one of them.

## Fore!

**We still have about 30 unsold spots for our golf outing on June 24<sup>th</sup>. The setting is the Des Plaines Golf Center on River Road. It's a par three nine-hole course, and I'm told it's a challenging course. All the openings are for the second start.**

**The club will lose a substantial amount of money unless all the tickets, which are \$35.00, including a buffet are sold. Can we find members, relatives of members, friends of members, etc to make this event a sell-out?**

**Please contact Ray Bochat for information.**



*Take Time to remember those who served*

## THE OPTIMIST CLUB 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 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

### June Birthdays

Bob Bochat  
Ralph Cote  
Charlie Schmidt  
Steve Meinecke

### June Anniversaries

Ray Kopecky  
Tom Swanson  
Bill Baxmann  
Norm Voss

## New Members Bios!

It's a great month when you can post a five per cent increase in your membership, and with the addition of Rajakumari Pavuluri and Tom Meyers, we've done just that.

Our unofficial ambassador to the world, Don Moran, recruited Tom. He's Don's next-door neighbor, and Don's enthusiasm for the club piqued his interest. He attended the NOW dinner and liked what he saw. Born on a farm in Napoleon, Ohio, he grew up on a 400 acre one in Defiance . Finding sows, cows, and soybeans not things he wished to make his career, he answered the call to the bright lights and big city and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Chicago Technical College.

Armed with his sheepskin, Tom began a career in the saw blade industry, and has lectured on the subject of cutting tools and related technology throughout the U.S., Europe and Asia.

In 2002, he underwent a career change, and has since worked as an airline reservation agent, industrial supply representative, and is currently an insurance agent.

It's a shame kite making isn't a booming field, because he was quite busy at our kite fly on May 19<sup>th</sup>, quickly and expertly assembling kites for kids. We'll see if baiting hooks and snarling fishing line are also in his bailiwick at the fishing derby. Welcome aboard, Tom, and may optimism become a way of life.

Our other "newbie" is Rajakumari Pavuluri and she was also born south of Chicago. In fact she was born south of the United States in Haidarabad, a town of 3 million plus in south central India.

Recruited by former president and Oratorical Chair Chris Ladner, she is very familiar to anyone who has worked the oratorical contest the last three years. Rajakumari brings her son, Aditya to practice faithfully, and she sees that he practices regularly. Her dedication (and his) paid off when he won the club contest this year and was runner-up at the regional. He has also been asked to address his 8<sup>th</sup> grade at their upcoming commencement exercises.

In 2002, she took the enormous challenge of moving to America and learning a new culture. When you consider just how difficult taking on a task like that can be, it becomes clear that Rajakumari was an Optimist before she even heard of our club. To be too large for worry, too strong

for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble? She's all that and more.

Employed as a software engineer, the dreaded words layoff and outsource have been uttered more than once, and after stops at Siemens and Motorola, she is currently working at G.E. Healthcare in Barrington.

When not working, she also volunteers with her son's Lego robotics team. Welcome to the club, Rajakumari, and we hope this is the start of an exciting new chapter in your life.