

Pipeline Newsletter

Optimist Club of Des Plaines

Newsletter Date March 1, 2008

Thoughts from President Tom

Hello Optimist club members.

I can't believe that a new month is upon us. Time surely is speeding along at break neck speed.

I want to thank the budget committee: Chris, Judy and Zack Ladner, Dianna Edwards and Stan Catlett for their hard work in hammering out the budget for the 2008 fiscal year. The budget was accepted by the membership at the February 21, 2008 meeting.

Thank you is also in order to the Ladner's, Don Moran, Al Bayer, Stan Walgreen and Steve Meinecke for their wonderful efforts on the oratorical contest. The girl's preliminary is March 7, and the final March 14th.

If you haven't seen what our dedicated coaches have taught these kids than I urge you to show up at the library and see these children speak. You will not regret it. In fact, a father of one the children came to our past meeting thanking us for what we do for the kids. It's nice to hear sometimes.

Welcome to our newest members John and Ruth Del Re. John and Ruth own Liberty Computers in Des Plaines. They have already volunteered to be judges at the preliminary rounds of the oratorical contest. What a great way to start!

The Pasta Dinner Fundraiser is set for April 13th at Trinity Lutheran Church from 4-7pm. We need donations from the merchants in Des Plaines. So, the more donations the more successful the fundraiser will be. If you have questions, talk to Dianna Edwards, Ray Bochat or myself.

Yours in Optimism-

Tom

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

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Upcoming Events:

March 7th Girl's Oratorical
 Preliminary

March 14th- Oratorical Finals

March 6th Dinner:
 Prime Rib, onion soup,
 carrot cake

March 20th Dinner:
 Corned beef, crème de
 menthe

*Once a word has been
 allowed to escape, it
 cannot be recalled-Horace*

**Caine: What is the greatest
 obligation we have?**

**Master Po: To live
 Grasshopper, to live!**

BOY'S COMPETE ON FEBRUARY 29TH

Our record high number of youthful orator's competed in preliminary rounds on Friday night, February 29th at the Des Plaines Public Library. Two rooms were reserved for the occasion, and the field of 19 boys divided into two groups of ten and nine.

Only three from each room would go on to the finals.

Our own veteran Al Bayer served as a timekeeper, and Kyna Demming, all the way from Ontario, Canada, a visiting guest of the Ladner family, was the other. Her parents are extremely active in the Canadian Optimist organization.

Serving as judges were John and Ruth Del Re, and Mary Alice Wenzl, and Deacon Dan Hughes from St Martin's, Fr. Don Frye, and Jeanine Lacerba .

The subject of Why Me? Why Not? provided the impetus for a variety of responses. After careful consideration, the six finalists were named and they are:

Tune in to your Pipeline in April to read who the male winner was, who advanced in the March 7th girl's preliminary, and who will be representing Des Plaines in the regionals on April 12th in Sterling.

GIRL'S TO COMPETE ON MARCH 7TH

Our oratorical contest is simply amazing this year. In addition to the record turnout of young men, 15 girls took part in the preliminary contest. This is also a record number of participants.

Judy Ladner and Al Bayer served as timekeepers, and our six judges were Dee Frank, Tom Swanson, Kris Dahlstrom, local business owners John and Ruth Del Re, and attorney Bob Naumann.

Success is not without its problems. Reserving two rooms, getting two time keepers and six judges, and seeing that every participant gets adequate training can be a problem, but

what a wonderful problem it is. At the Sterling Regional meeting that Lt. Gov. Chris Ladner attended, it was noted that zone contests are becoming rare because there is a disturbing lack of interest in this event, both on club's and student's part.

Des Plaines was, and will be the happy exception to this trend.

PASTAPALOOZA SET FOR APRIL 13TH



It's that time again when all good Optimists gather together to make pasta, sauce, sides, desserts, and sell tickets to friends, loved ones, and absolute strangers. Tickets are printed and ready for sale for all.

Our annual pasta dinner will be at **Trinity Lutheran Church** on **Sunday April 13th**. We are looking for members to donate pasta, beef, baked goods, and items for the auction to help make this fundraiser a success.

Last year, our talented cooks and generous members helped us make just over \$1,000.00 from this affair. We will need people to be servers, bus tables, run the raffle/auction, help with set up and clean up, and in general support the club. If you'd like to bring a couple of boxes of dried pasta to the next meeting, we'll make sure it finds a home.

Dianna Edwards is chairing this event. Please contact her at dedwardardsbc@sbcglobal.net or 847-296-6573 if you'd like to help.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

The board met February 28th at the Silver Stallion. They are continuing to investigate different restaurants for a possible change of meeting places. The food and prices are very competitive, and the meeting room spacious.

It was decided to put the kite fly on hiatus. It may be held in the fall, depending on finances and interest. The **Fishing Derby** will be **May 17th**.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

I neglected to mention in February's anniversary list Toby and Janice Gilbert celebrated 31 years together on February 19th. For a couple as young as the Gilbert's to have 31 years of marriage, they had to have been married quite young. Our undercover reporter located a picture of the happy couple on their wedding day.



*Meeting you was
fate, becoming
your friend was a
choice, falling in
love with you was
beyond my
control.*

This month's love birds are Stan and Donna Catlett. Congratulations, and may you have many more.

YOU SAY IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY....



It's all birthday boys this month. Join us in wishing happy birthday to Rich Rogers, Fred Triebe, and Ed Welther.

A MONTH OF CELEBRATING

This March is laden with holidays. Most of us know that Passover and Easter will be celebrated this month. By the way, it will be over 220 years before Easter comes this early again. It will also mark the first day of spring, daylight savings time, and St Patrick's Day. And if you want to enjoy the more obscure events, I'll remind you that National Peanut Butter Day is March 1st, the Feast of Excited Insects on March 5th, the Ides of March on the 15th, the swallows return to Capistrano on the 19th, and the 30th is "Something on a Stick" day. Let's Party!