



OPTIMIST CLUB OF DES PLAINES, IL

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Kites and Freedom



Once again, we had wonderful weather for kids to find out about the joys of flying a kite. We don't know how Ray Kopecky seems to have good weather ordered for this event each year, but if this had been held the previous weekend we sure would have had too much wind and rain. Instead, it was picture perfect. We had between 40-45 youth attend the event, with each child receiving a free kite and help with putting it together as well as getting it up in the air. Besides the free kite, there was lots of food and prizes.

Along with the good weather were lots of club members there to lend a hand or just to watch and enjoy. Glenn Swanson was there to register the youth as he always does. We also had help from Jim Woods, Al Bayer, Dianna Edwards, and Ray Bochat. Other members who were there were Prez Stacey and hubby Paul who was taking lots of pictures. Vern Luebbers also attended the Kite Fly.

It was only nine days later that Prez Stacey and Don Moran, representing our club, were able to place a wreath in memory of those Des Plaines veterans who have served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives so that we might live free.

There was a good turnout by the community to hear the band music, the speeches, and to see the various organizations that took the time to be there to give homage to this sacrifice.

On behalf of our club, these were the words that were spoken:

“As President of the Optimist Club of Des Plaines I take great pride in representing our club as we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Our club's motto, “Friend of Youth,” is one which our fallen soldiers most certainly embody, for what greater Friend of Youth is there than those who have given their lives that our youth may grow up in their community, proud and free! It is in remembrance of this sacrifice that we place this wreath.”

So, as we go through the year, being the best “Friend of Youth” that we can, let us not forget that our freedoms to sponsor the various organizations and activities that we do have been made possible by the sacrifice of many.

There were several there on Memorial Day who expressed these sentiments with great sincerity, “In God We Trust” and “God Bless America.”



The **May 1st** meeting was very enjoyable for all who attended. We had favorable reports from all committees regarding club events that will transpire in the next few months. In order to avoid duplication, each of these will be covered elsewhere in this publication.

We were also pleased to hear Zack Ladner's award winning speech. The topic for all youth this year was "United We Stand In Optimism." Zack certainly did a fine job and caused all of us to say the creed at the end of our meeting with renewed enthusiasm and dedication. Our girl winner, Heather Dean, was unfortunately ill and unable to attend.

In honor of the Fishing Derby to be held this Saturday, the 31st, Ed and Ray held a little fishing derby of their own that was great fun. If your raffle ticket was pulled, you got to "go fishin'" in the wading pool they had provided. If you wanted they were happy to provide you with all kinds of gear to protect you from the mists and sprays that they were providing. Your fishing pole had a magnet attached to it and it was simply a matter of "attracting" a fish to find out what prize you would get for your catch. There was great variety, as always, in this respect. We just don't know how these guys do it! They are so creative with these "Fun and Frolics" for our meetings.

May 15th found our Vice Prez, Bill Atherton, chairing our meeting as the Prez and Paul were attending the High School's Retirement Dinner. We guess Paul was reliving the past a little as well as wishing some of his old colleagues well as they retire. We're wondering what kind of "smiley" we can get for Bill since it seems he managed to run out of gas on the way to the meeting. Glenn had 20 questions that seemed to stump most of our members with the exception of Ray Kopecky who is a veritable fount of knowledge. There was also lots of fun had by all as Dianna and Ray provided us with yet another raffle that either put cash in your pocket or a tomato plant in your garden.

Our next meeting is the last one at the Elk's Club until September.



This was an idea that the late Lee Hoelscher had and has been picked up by Ray Kopecky as a project. Well, we have a date and hope that everyone will decide to have dinner out that night. Mark your calendar for July 10th, 5-8 PM. They offer an all you care to eat plentiful dining experience featuring fresh cut produce, specialty prepared salads, hearty made-from-scratch soups, fresh baked breads and muffins, original-recipe hot pasta dishes, fresh fruit, frozen yogurt with toppings and more!

Sweet Tomatoes is located in Schaumburg at 1951 E. McConnor Pkwy. It is south of IKEA and north of the Woodfield Mall. If you go west on Golf, turn right at the first street as you go under the overpass to I-290.

You will need to have a coupon that will ensure that 20% of your receipt will be donated to our club. These coupons will be available at meetings and in the next issue of the *Pipeline*. Tell all your friends and neighbors about our event, as the more folk there are eating, the more money we make for our projects.



Fishing Derby

Our annual Fishing Derby is this Saturday, 9AM-12 PM.

The denizens of the deep will once again have to fear the onslaught of our youth as they, (the fish), are tempted with the finest of fishing cuisine. Ray Bochat and crew will be on hand and we hope to have lots of members come out. Remember, this activity will happen, rain or shine. We can't help but wonder at the "whoppers" that will be caught!

Tee-Shirts for Youth

The Board of Directors has proposed that we purchase participation shirts that would be given out to youth that successfully complete any of our activities. We would like to initially purchase 200 shirts. That would be enough for the activities that we have planned until next year's budget is approved. We will plan to purchase additional shirts for the new year's activities. The details will be explained at our next meeting at which time we will ask the membership for approval of this idea. Stan has crunched the numbers and we have more than enough funds to cover this cost.

You'll notice that there is a new event listed, Bowling for Youth. This is something that we have thought about offering to our youth for some time. We have added this activity to the shirt because we are optimistic about it becoming a reality next year.



June Birthdays



Four of our members were June babies. We wish them the very best of celebrations! They are:

- Ron Aron**
- Bob Bochat**
- Ralph Cote**
- Charlie Schmidt**

Many happy returns!
We hope we didn't miss anyone.

Outdoor Meetings

Our next meeting will be the last indoor meeting at the Elk's Club until next September. Tom Swanson is chair of these meetings and has given us the following schedule. Because of the calendar and the Park District needing the tables and chairs they so graciously allow us to use, we will only be able to have four outdoor meetings. Please note that we still need a host for our August 7th meeting. How about your place?

Date	Host	Capt.	Address
June 19	Magnusson's	S. Walgreen	175 N. Wolf Rd.
July 17	D. Edwards	R. Bochat	2116 S. Plainfield Dr.
Aug. 7	?????????	?????????	?????????????????????
Aug. 21	C. Ladner	E. Welther	197 Warrington

Jr. Golf

This is the third year that we have offered a golf activity for our youth. Each year it has grown in popularity to the extent that it is probably our best-attended event. August 7th will be here before we know it and this year, more than any other, we will need lots of help from our club members.

We presently have 107 golfers registered. If you do the simple math we would not be able to start the tournament as we have in the past, with the first foursome beginning at the first tee. Instead, we will be using what is called a “shot gun” start. Each tee will have a foursome and all will start at the same time. Of course, each group will complete all 18 holes.

This will mean that we will need help at each tee. Right now we figure that we will need at least eighteen club members. If you will be able to help with this event, please do two things. First, mark the date on your calendar. Second, let Bill Atherton know that he can count on your help by either calling him, (847) 699-7436 or by emailing him at bill.atherton@bairdwarner.com. (Make sure you put the period between bill and atherton). Or, you can tell him in person at the next meeting, provided he doesn't run out of gas.

Pipeline Award

“To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best...” So how come we didn't win first? That was the “knee jerk” response that the editor and a few other members, who are very proud of their club's newsletter, had when they heard that the *Pipeline* had won second place in OI's international contest for club publications. The club that received first place is in Pueblo, Colorado. We can't wait to see what their newsletter looks like so that we can make ours better.

Paul will be on hand at the International Convention to receive the patch for our banner. Congrats, Paul!

The Optimist 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 to 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.

Christian D. Larson

Fourth of July Parade



Now please, don't panic. This is not the “vehicle” that we will be using this year in the parade. Some of you may remember when this may have been the mode of transport, but, as of last year, we have been able to ride in comfort. We will be participating in our town's parade in a trolley very similar to last years. The most important thing is that it is air-conditioned! We will be meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church on Algonquin at 9:00 AM. We will be leaving for the parade at 9:15 AM, so don't be late!

We want to thank Mike Steinberger of the Deerfield club for the following “eye-opener”:

As we all pull up to the gas station to fill up our tanks and are so concerned about the price of a gallon of gas, consider this.

Diet Snapple 16 oz \$1.29.....	\$10.32 per gallon
Lipton Ice Tea 16 oz \$1.19.....	\$9.52 per gallon
Gatorade 20 oz \$1.59.....	\$10.17 per gallon
Ocean Spray 16 oz \$1.25.....	\$10.00 per gallon
Brake Fluid 12 oz \$3.15.....	\$33.60 per gallon
Vick’s Nyquil 6 oz \$8.35.....	\$178.13 per gallon
Pepto Bismaol 4 oz. \$3.85.....	\$123.20 per gallon
Whiteout 7 oz \$1.39.....	\$25.42 per gallon
Scope 1.5 oz \$0.99.....	\$84.48 per gallon

And this is the REAL KICKER....

Evian water 9 oz for \$1.49.....\$21.19 per gallon. \$21.19 FOR WATER!...and the buyers don’t even know the source.

Yes, and the name, Evian, is naïve backwards and this product is being sold by the millions of gallons in the US.

So, the next time you’re at the pump, be glad your car doesn’t run on water, Scope, Whiteout, or, God forbid, PEPTO BISMOL or NYQUIL!

Just a little humor to help ease the pain of your next trip to the pump!



Friend of Youth

Coming Events

- May 31 **Fishing Derby** at Lake Opeka,
9am – 12pm (noon).
- June 5 **Meeting** at the Elk’s Club, 7 PM.
- June 19 **Outdoor Meeting** at the
Magnusson’s, 175 N. Wolf
Road. You can park on Wolf
Road after 6 PM, or, if you
prefer, park on Drake and
walk down a block.
- June 26 **Board Meeting** at Stacey
Magnusson’s, 7 PM.



Don and the Prez at Memorial Day

The Prez Sez



“*Just Ask!*” How many of you remember the buttons that we used to have with that slogan? It goes back many years, even before my time as an Optimist.

Somewhere, in the back of a box, I know I have several.

What are we supposed to ask? Actually, I would re-state the button to read “*Let me tell you something about Optimism!*” Did you know that you are one of 114,000 members internationally? That we are one of 3,500 clubs? That over 6,000,000 youth are served and 65,000 service projects are conducted annually?

Wow! I must admit that I didn’t know those statistics when I was *asked* about them during lunch last week. Not that it would have made a difference in bringing in a new member, but it sure would pique their interest to want to come to a meeting and learn more.

So, with all of this in mind, I believe that we are up for a new challenge – that of Honor Club. I met a former Optimist member from Quebec a while ago and one of the first things he said about his club was that it was an Honor Club. Sounded good to me, but what does it mean? How easy is it to achieve? As President, I am working with our Secretary to fill out the proper forms telling about all the great activities that YOU, our members, have done for the club.

The only thing we are in need of is new members. Could you make a list of 3-5 people you know through the neighborhood, your job, church, Little League....? Have you told them anything about Optimism and our club? **Why not?** After you tell them a little bit about what we do and the incredible numbers stated above I wouldn’t doubt that they would want to learn more. That is when you **JUST ASK** them to a meeting, **JUST ASK** if they would like to have you sponsor them as a member of the club. Summer is a perfect time to bring someone to a meeting – all you have to do is, **JUST ASK!**