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PIPELINE NEWSLETTER



OPTIMIST CLUB OF DES PLAINES, IL

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Our project for the month of July, as well as our first meeting, was our city's Fourth of July Parade. This picture says it all, doesn't it? Youth and a parade! And, when you add in our Optimist Club riding in a trolley, (well, some of us did), it made out for a great time.

You know, I was wondering about parades. I wonder when the first parade ever was? I wonder who was in it and what it was for? I would guess that it may have occurred after some military victory and the troops and their leaders were parading by the home town, or maybe the conquered town, as if to say, "Aren't we grand, we won the day, and look at how strong we are."

Now, I am not saying that there shouldn't be parades to honor our troops and their victories, and it goes without saying that this parade commemorates the birth of our great nation. But it also seems to have turned in to an event which gives the spectators a chance to kick back and watch as all kinds of interests walk by to let you know of their existence and their cause. Please don't get me wrong, I think that this is great and is a fabulous expression of one of our most beloved freedoms: that of expression.

In our case, it lets everyone know that there is an organization in town that supports kids, and that we do this in a variety of ways. We help out with extra cash for organizations that don't have enough to do what they need to do for youth. We sponsor events that help kids learn how to organize their thoughts and speak in public, to learn to fly a kite, to learn to fish. We give them a chance to golf competitively and we give them a chance to be recognized not for their scholarship, but for the kind of positive lives they lead. We even help kids and their families who are suffering from Cancer. That's just really cool and I am so proud to be a part of all of this.

We sure want to thank Don Moran for heading up this committee and for Ed Welther, who once again came up with a wonderful donation that enabled us to pass out candy and tell the town what we do for kids. These were M&M's, but each one was imprinted with an activity that we do for kids here in Des Plaines. What a great idea, Ed.

We also want to thank all of the members who came to help and show the world the friendly smiles that belong to the members of The Optimist Club of Des Plaines, IL.

July 17th Meeting

We want to thank Dianna Edwards for hosting our second outdoor meeting at her lovely home. The weather was not the most pleasant that we have enjoyed, but we were able to stay fairly dry and the food, as always, was extra good, to speak nothing of the optimistic fellowship we all enjoyed. The menu consisted of barbequed short ribs (in honor of our return from KC), homemade salads, and ice cream sundaes.

We were pleased to welcome a guest that Paul had invited, Steve Meinecke. Some time ago, both Prez Stacey and Paul taught Steve. Steve sang in the Choir at Maine West and since his graduation we have been trying to get together with him, although he has gotten together with us on several occasions, helping out. The most recent of these was the Fourth of July Parade when Steve stopped by to say “Hi” and ended up walking the entire parade with us, handing out candy and helping us in many ways.

It’s always great to welcome a guest and it’s even better when they come to the meeting with a signed application for membership in their hand. Steve is engaged to Margaret (Maggie) Croft (no relation to the Tomb Raider) and when we mentioned to Steve that we have several couples in the club he said that he would ask her about sharing this activity with him. So, you guessed it, we will have a “double induction” at our next meeting. We hope to have a great turnout to welcome our two newest members in Optimism!

We also welcomed three other guests from the “Save the Theater” organization. Joan and Tom Kuersten and Doug Bean. Doug presented a wonderful speech about the history of the Des Plaines Theater, regaling us with its rich past and the many types of entertainment that our citizens have been able to enjoy over the years. Their purpose is to try to persuade the powers-that-be that the Des Plaines Theater can once again be a source of enjoyment for us all.

Although the building has been purchased by a bank in Mt. Prospect, it is still possible that the theater can be saved. We can only hope that this can be accomplished so that another symbol of Des Plaines can be restored, continuing to be a landmark in our town for generations to come.

Outdoor Meetings in August



If the Park District did not have a special event in September we would be able to say that we have three more outdoor meetings to enjoy. However, this year, that is **not** the case. So, be sure to make the most of these special meetings by being in attendance.

Mary Alice Wenzl will host our next meeting. Mary Alice lives at 2481 Peter Road. Now I’ve been told that this is one of those mysterious streets that is somewhat hidden. These directions should get you there without problem. Take River Rd. South to Touhy, West (right) on Touhy to Scott, South (left) on Scott to Laura, West (right) on Laura to Peter, and then North (right) on Peter to her house. I am excited to find her place. I was told that everyone in Des Plaines knows where Scott is. After this dinner I will be able to join those ranks of the informed.

Our last meeting in August will be a Spouses’/Significant-Other Night and will be held at Chris Ladner’s home. Chris lives at 197 Warrington. We look forward to both of these meetings and hope to find you all in attendance.



“Save the Theater” float from the Fourth

Tee-Shirts for Youth

The shirts are in! We will have plenty of shirts for the golf outing in August and we will also be giving them to our Oratorical youth and Eighth Grade Scholarship winners. We ordered a few (please note that word) XL's for club members that may wish to purchase one. Cost is \$6 and should be given to Stan, either in cash or check. We will have shirts available for purchase at our Outdoor Meetings in August.



Jr. Golf

Bill Atherton has been hard at work organizing our Third Annual Jr. Golf Outing



for youth at Lake Opeka. The event will be held on Wednesday, August 6th. In the event of rain, it will be held the following week, August 13th.

The day will begin at 8 AM and we will need lots of help getting things set up so we can start promptly at 9 AM.

There are still some "specific" jobs that need to be filled, like a cooking assistant for Ed Welther, but we are sure that all that needs doing will get done. Come on out, help a little, enjoy a lot!

We think Tom needed more on his fork.



August

Birthdays



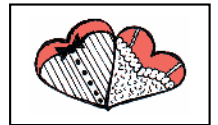
We have no members that were born in August, so we will look forward to celebrating with our September babes next month.

Remember to let Paul know when your anniversary month is, as well as the year you were married, so that we can start recognizing those anniversaries as well.

We hope we didn't miss anyone.

The Bells

Were Ringin'



for Meghan and Bill Atherton in August of 1984, so we wish them a wonderful 19th wedding anniversary. The only reason we know this is because Stacey played piano for their wedding.

In order for us to be able to recognize your anniversary, let Paul know the month of your wedding as well as the year. You can do that by calling, 294-0568, or by emailing, pmagnusson@comcast.net.



We had a fabulous turnout as we enjoyed good food with the knowledge that 20% of our receipts was going to help a local family whose son is suffering from bone cancer. We hope to know by the next issue how much we were able to raise. Thanks to all who were able to support this project, and thanks to Ray Kopecky for his help in chairing the event.

“Boy, do I feeeel Good!”

If you know anything about our current International President, Bill Teague, you will know that this is his motto. We couldn't help but feel good while we attended the 85th International Optimist Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. It was a convention full of barbeque, jazz, and, most of all, Optimism. It was a time to be able to meet Optimists from around the globe, vote upon issues that affect us all, and learn from the best about how we can become a better club and do more for our youth.

Prez Stacey, Paul, Ray Kopecky, as well as Ray's wife, Janice, lived our Optimism 24/7 while learning a lot about current programs, talking with fellow Optimists and enjoying Kansas City BBQ (Ask Ray about his experience at the local digs!).

Stacey will share some of the highlights of the convention at our first meeting in August. We have lots of pictures to share, some in this issue, Paul accepted the award for the Pipeline (Yay, Paul!), we received information about various changes in policy as well as updates on the Childhood Cancer Campaign. We also found out more about what the Foundation does for our clubs, and, the very last day, \$500,000.00 was raised in just 8 hours for the OI Foundation. Whew, that was a lot in just a few days.

Our Illinois District Convention in Springfield is just around the corner, August 16 and 17. We want to challenge all of our members to look at their calendars and plan to attend. You have NO idea how much fun these conferences are and how much is to be gained by attending. We feel it is crucial for anyone who is a board member or officer to attend these district meetings.

The Convention was sponsored by the Kansas and Western Missouri Districts. Here, the scarecrow from the “Wizard of Oz,” poses with Ray.



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

Del Johnson

For those of you who may not know, Del Johnson has been feeling “ a little under the weather” for the past several weeks. He had been hospitalized as he was having difficulty breathing, and, because of his recent heart attack, was in no shape to have any type of invasive surgery.

It didn't take long for him to be entertaining the nurses and sitting up, watching TV and reading the newspaper. Nonetheless, they kept him for several days before releasing him to go home.

When he got home it was with the doctor's understanding that he now had a new dancing partner, an oxygen tank, to keep him company for a while. He is still escorting this medical contraption around with him and it doesn't seem to be slowing him down any as he most recently was able to go up to Wisconsin to enjoy some “cabin time” with his family.

We are pleased to report that our good friend is “on the mend.”

Joint Project with

Mt. Prospect Kiwanis

As we began our Sweet Tomatoes project we found others who work for youth as members of the Kiwanis Club in Mt. Prospect who were very quick to open their wallets and checkbooks to make donations. They heard about the event from Stan, who happens to also belong to that club. It was a natural when they asked him to ask us if we would like to help them with a Pancake Breakfast that they are arranging for August 10th, 7-11AM, and, they will split the profits with us.

Sounds like a good deal. They do all the work, set up, advertising, etc., and we come to help out. Stacey has already rounded up a willing crew, but if you were not contacted and would like to be involved, just give the Prez a call, 847-294-0568, and she will “hook you up” with a two hour shift.



Paul receiving the second place award for club bulletins in KC

It's All About the Dues

As we have said elsewhere in this issue, we so hope that more members will be able to attend District and International Optimist Conventions. When you do, you realize that our club, along with all of the others, is so important in making the whole organization a success.

Optimist International, our parent organization, is like a big company, helping and serving youth all over the world. But, like any big company, there are costs associated with providing the programs that they do.

It has now been two years in a row that major dues legislation has been defeated, causing an individual dues increase to be necessary in order to continue the good work that has always been done by OI.

Last year there was a \$3 increase that we did not pass along to all of you because of the timing involved. This year there has been another increase of \$4. Presently we do not know what our individual club dues will be for the new year. The next issue of the *Pipeline* will have that figure for you.

Ray attended many treasurers' meetings in KC to find out about his new job for our club. One thing he did find was that we have been charging our members the bare minimum that is necessary. Many clubs collect their dues quarterly because they are so high.

We don't intend to go that route, but we will need to make an increase. We hope that everyone will understand that we have been holding the line, but that the time has come for such an increase.

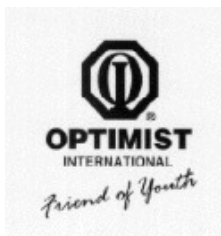
Artifacts, anyone? Does anyone in the Club have any Optimist artifacts lying around, maybe an old picture or a plaque, some pins or buttons from the 1950's? Perhaps you may have a brochure, trophy or banner sitting in a box somewhere. If you do, Optimist International would love to have it. The organization is putting together a living history of Optimism, which will be displayed at the International Office in St. Louis. Any piece that shows our positive attitude in action over the years is welcome. Please contact Margie McIntyre at 800-500-8130 ext. 221 or by email mcintyrem@optimist.org to submit an item for the Optimist International Archives Project.

Friend of Youth



Coming Events

- August 6 **Jr. Golf** at Lake Opeka – Set up will be at 8 AM and we will need lots of help. We anticipate the day-of-golf-for-youth will be done by 3:00 PM.
- August 7 **Outdoor Meeting** at the Mary Alice Wenzl's, 2481 Peter Road, 7 PM.
- August 10 **Pancake Breakfast** – a joint project with the Kiwanis Club of Mt. Prospect, 7-11 AM.
- August 13 **Jr. Golf Rain Date**
- August 21 **Outdoor Meeting** at the Chris Ladner's, 197 Warrington, 7 PM.
- August 28 **Board Meeting** at Stacey Magnusson's, 7 PM.



The Prez Sez



Dr. Jack Singer, psychologist and comedian, made a presentation to the general assembly at the International Convention in Kansas City and had us

holding our sides with laughter. He did touch on many Optimistic thoughts as well. In his presentation he referred to the “dash” that is engraved on a tombstone, between a person’s date of birth and death, as being representative of your life’s meaning – what have you done to define your dash? I would like to share the following with all of you for my “Prez Sez” this month:

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- O**bserve your internal dialogue each day
 - P**ulverize all negative self-talk
 - T**hink positive thoughts and expect only the best for you and those whose lives you touch
 - I**magine and visualize positive goals every day
 - M**ake fun and humor integral parts of your life
 - I**gnore all temptations to worry, anger and fear
 - S**kyrocket your success by viewing all obstacles and challenges as opportunities
 - T**ake pride in knowing that YOUR participation in Optimist truly defines your ‘dash’
-



Ray and Janice Kopecky, Prez Stacey and Paul at the Presidential Ball in KC