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Pipeline Newsletter



Optimist Club of Des Plaines

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Fore for Four

It was four years ago that Bill Atherton had the idea that our club should broaden its horizons in what we did for youth by sponsoring a golf outing at Lake Opeka. Now this was not the first time that we had been involved with a golf program as we had, for some time, participated in the OI Junior Golf event. We've been told that the last time we did this we actually had a state winner. The national contest was on the "left coast" in San Diego and practically broke us as we had to pay for transportation, and housing for the student and his family.

However, when Bill proposed this program we saw it as a way to encourage golf and keep it at home. Our first year, as we recall, saw 49 young golfers on the course. Although we had always had a good working relation with our Park District, we now had an even closer one. With the help of Rob Ward, the supervisor for Lake Park, our program has become one around which parents plan their vacations

This year 144 youth were involved with our Jr. Golf program. In order

to accommodate this many golfers, we had to have two shotgun starts. The first of these was to start at 7 AM. When we first heard of that time, we thought, "Yeah, right." Well, it meant getting there before 6 in the morning for set up, as well as the golfers checking in prior to tee off. Well, it wasn't quite 7 that the signal was sounded for all to hear, telling them to begin, but it was pretty close to it.



The first to arrive.

Stan Walgreen, this year's event chair, had it planned, down to the tee, (ha!), with Rob. Rob did all of the registration and running of the contest, while we helped with checking them in and making sure that everyone got a participation tee shirt. The water bottles, water and pop was donated, courtesy of Peggy Higgins and the Des Plaines National Bank. We had club members on the course for closest to the pin awards, and lots of help to feed the hungry when they were finished.

Every youth received a prize and food was given out in two batches so that the kids and parents from the first round would not have to wait until the second was finished.

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It was a long day, starting at 6 AM and concluding at 2 PM, but it was a great day. Special awards were given on three holes for whomever was closest to the pin, and one hole for the longest putt of the day.

A final playoff was held the following Saturday. Twenty of Wednesday's participants were eligible to compete, but only thirteen youngsters were present to golf. In fact, with all the members who showed up to help, we had more Optimists than golfers.

Stan would like to thank all the members who helped with both events. Without this help we would not have had the successful program that we did. Special thanks go out to Ed Welther and Jim Woods for their help with cooking. Next year we will have no limits as to participation and the Park District has said that they will close the course down for the entire day to accommodate the Day of Golf for Kids. If necessary, we will have three shotgun starts.

Thanks, Stan, for all the work you did to make this a successful Jr. Golf Tournament.



Meetings

Our **first meeting** of the month was held at Phillip Welther's house, Ed's son and Kay's grandson. We always look forward to these meetings to not only see the backyard, but to enjoy good food in these pleasant surroundings.

Our heart and palate began to race as we soon realized that the main event was none other

than Ed's famous deep fried turkey!!! Oh, my, was it good. All of the other fixin's were equally fine and the company was beyond compare.

We heard a report from Chris on the OI International Convention that he had attended with his family in St. Louis. We've heard about these in recent years from Stacey and Paul and it looks like we have another convert. Chris reported that Optimism was high, the training was great, family excursions planned for the kids and spouses was terrific and, the beer in the hospitality rooms at night was cold and free! See last month's issue for more about the convention.

Our **second meeting** was held at Club Casa at the Golf Center in Des Plaines. This was our first time having a summer meeting here. Only problem was they only scheduled one waitress, even though they knew we were coming. She did a fabulous job taking care of all of us, and I am sure, we took care of her, tip-wise.

Dr. Sue Muschett attended as a guest, wanting to know more about our club. She first found out about us by visiting the web page. That caused her to call Paul where she received an earful about the club and all we do. Unlike other calls that he has had, this one asked if she could help out with an activity. He told her about the Jr. Golf and she called Stan and signed up to work. In fact, she was there all day on Wednesday and even brought a prize to give. It was so fantastically kid-oriented, that Stan decided to save it as one of the grand prizes for the final round on Saturday. Her gift was a basket, full to the brim with all kinds of "junk food" that kids just love. It was great to "break bread" with her and we hope to see more of her in the near future.

Our meeting concluded with another fabulous raffle by Ed Welther. He had a dozen or more bags, all stapled shut with all kinds of "goodies" inside. If your ticket was pulled,

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you had the option of choosing, or stealing a bag from someone who had already won. As usual, there was everything from “gag gifts”, to wine, to “socks tickets”. Thanks Ed, for another wonderful “Fun and Frolic.”

Our next meeting will be back in the friendly confines of the Elk’s Club.



We don’t seem to have anyone that was married in the month of September. If we have missed your anniversary, we apologize. Please let us know so we can correct our records!

September Birthdays



We are happy, even if they aren’t, to wish some of our members good wishes on their continued longevity! They are:

Bobbi Atherton,
Stacey, the Prez, Magnusson,
Warren Posternack, and
Bob Roller.

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

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

Baby Time!



We are always happy to announce good news about our members to the rest of the club. What better news than that of new life.

The Swansons are expecting!!!! No, not Glenn, Tom and his lovely wife, Colleen. We are all so happy for them and will be wishing and praying for the best!



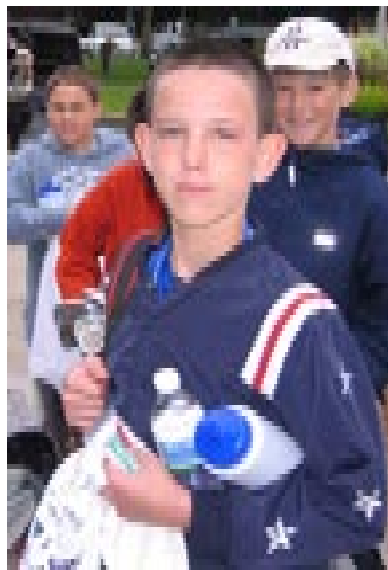
Golf Pictures



We live to golf!



He's been here every year.



He's got his tee-shirt, water bottle, water, ball marker and clubs. He's ready to go.



On line!!!

Friend of Youth



Coming Events

- Sept. 2- **Meeting** - Elk's Club, 7 PM
- Sept. 16- **Meeting** - Elk's Club, 7 PM
- Sept. 23- **Board Meeting** at Stacey Magnusson's, 7 PM. This meeting is for the old board as well as the incoming board.



Optimists screwing the lids onto the water bottles.

Prez Sez



To everything there is a season...

Yes, it's that time of year again. For many of us, the end of summer means that school is about to begin. Whether you are a teacher, a parent, or can just think back to your first weeks of school, you are filled with a sense of anticipation and excitement as to what the new year will bring.

I have been so proud to have had the opportunity to serve our club as President for the past two years. We've certainly pressed on to some great achievements, made many new friends, and remained strong through adversity. We've lost members near and dear to our hearts and brought in new members who have won our hearts with their Optimism. We've worked hard to provide quality activities for the youth of Des Plaines and every single one of you should be proud to be a member of our club.

As my term draws to an end, I am filled with a sense of excitement to see Chris Ladner take his turn at the podium. Our two families had a wonderful time in St. Louis and I know that he is ready to begin his term as the 50th president of the Optimist Club of Des Plaines.

Thank you ALL for your help and support – you are the reason our club is able to celebrate 50 years of sharing Optimism.



O • P • T • I • M • I • S • M
(the sweetest candy!)