



OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

DECEMBER 2006

Coming Attractions!

- WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13 – Program to be announced.
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20 – Program to be announced; **EARLY BIRD #2 drawing.**
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27 – Program to be announced.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 3 – HAPPY NEW YEAR! Program to be announced; Board meeting.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10 – Program to be announced. 15-WEEK RAFFLE Week No. 1.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE Week No. 2.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 24 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE Week No. 3.
SATURDAY, JAN. 27 – **WINTER GOLF OUTING** at Keego Harbor Country Club; 10th Hole refreshments and pizza at Gino's.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 31 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE Week No. 4.
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 7 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE Week No. 5; Board meeting.

15-Week Raffle:

Goal, sell 300 tickets!

One third down, two thirds to go!

That's how our 15-Week raffle project looks after the first Early Bird drawing Dec. 6. We have 116 tickets in the barrel, which leaves a heckuva lot of tickets outside the barrel – and in the hands of members! **The goal is to realize a \$3,000 profit by selling all 300 tickets. President ED SIMONS is exhorting everyone: "Either buy or sell at least five tickets!"**

Congratulations to the first Early Bird \$25 winners: JOHN SCOTT, ED SIMONS and JIM BAGLEY (*twice!*). Get your tickets in for the next Early Bird on Dec. 20.

The first of 15 weekly drawings will take place Jan. 10.

3-ON-3 HOCKEY

You've heard of 3-on-3 basketball?

Now, get ready for the excitement of 3-on-3 hockey!

Our Club, in cooperation with Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, will be sponsoring a 3-on-3 hockey tournament over three weekends in late April and early May.

The basic concept is this: teams of three skaters (plus two substitutes) and a goalie face off one another in two 15-minute periods cross ice, i.e., playing width-wise (*continued on page 4*)



The OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR (Optimist International, Michigan District No. 17, Zone 13, Club 227) serves the youth of Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake and Orchard Lake. The club meets at 7:30 a.m. every Wednesday at the Ember's Deli, 3258 Orchard Lake Road (next door to the West Bloomfield Fire Dept.) Phone: (248) 683-3344. Club's mailing address: PO Box 535, Keego Harbor, MI 48320.

Our web site:

www.keegoharboroptimist.org

MICHIGAN DISTRICT GOVERNOR:
LOU MOSS

MICHIGAN DISTRICT THEME:
"Expect Success"

2006-2007 OFFICERS:
President ED SIMONS
1st Vice President EARL LOWEN
2nd Vice President STEVE PALMER
Treasurer DON HORKEY
Secretary PAUL LIPSON

Directors

BILL BERTAKIS*
VALERIE EDGINGTON
JODI FRANKE*
DAN PETERS
NANCY PETSCH*
GAYLE STURT
(* 2 year terms).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
DON HORKEY

HONOR ROLL NEW MEMBERS

2006-2007

JOHN SCOTT (*sponsor*, Ed Simons)
GARY GARNER (*sponsor*, Earl Lowen)

LET'S CELEBRATE!

ANNIVERSARIES DURING DECEMBER & JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS:

DEC. 4 – JOHN BACZYNSKI

DEC. 9 – BOB BURNS

DEC. 31 – JODI FRANKE

JAN. 11 – SHARON GEE

JAN. 24 – PAUL LIPSON



MEMBERSHIPS:

28 YEARS – JIM SONKISS (Jan. 1, 1979)

14 YEARS – ANN CRAWFORD (Dec. 9, 1992),
BOB BURNS (Dec. 9, 1992)

7 YEARS – RAY KOBE (Dec. 28, 1999)

5 YEARS – ED SIMONS (Dec. 28, 2001)

3 YEARS – JOHN KURTTI (Dec. 12, 2003)

2 YEARS – TONY PERKOVIC (Dec. 4, 2004)

1 YEAR – TONY VRBENSKY (Jan. 8, 2006)

(If we missed your date, let Don Horkey know at
dhorkey@sbcglobal.net or call 743-453-7226.)

OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR 15-WEEK RAFFLE, 2007

to benefit scholarships, activities and programs for youth
of the Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake and Orchard Lake area.

* * *2007 PRIZE WINNERS* * *

EARLY BIRD DRAWINGS:

DEC. 6: \$25 each to JOHN SCOTT, JIM BAGLEY, SR.
(twice), and ED SIMONS.

DEC. 20: \$25 each to

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS:

Week 1 – JAN. 10:

Week 2 – JAN. 17:

Week 3 – JAN. 24:

Week 4 – JAN. 31:

Week 5 – FEB. 7:

Week 6 – FEB. 14:

Week 7 – FEB. 21:

Week 8 – FEB. 28:

Week 9 – MARCH 7:

Week 10 – MARCH 14:

Week 11 – MARCH 21:

Week 12 – MARCH 28:

Week 13 – APRIL 4:

Week 14 – APRIL 11:

Week 15 – APRIL 18:

● Rehabilitation is tough. Prisoners must study to earn at least a high school education or lose their privileges,

● Prisoners are allowed to have their own TV, radio and newspapers. The prison library has computers available.

● In a wide variety of jobs, prisoners earn from 80 cents to \$1.20 an hour for an 8-hour day.

● "Health care," Gary said, "is basically first aid." However, the state is under court order to vastly improve health care for the state's prison population.

Lt. Gov. LaLone pays a visit

Zone 13 Lt. Gov. Doug LaLone introduced himself to us at the Nov. 22 meeting. A patent attorney by profession, he is a past president of the Auburn Hills AM Club. Two of the Michigan District's key goals this year are membership and communication. He mentioned that the Auburn Hills Oakland CC has two Optimist campus clubs. He'd like to see more because "this is where we plant seeds for future Optimists." In addition to Our Club, Zone 13 takes in Auburn Hills Morning, Auburn Hills Noon, Bloomfield Hills, Lakes Area, Oakland CC, and Pontiac clubs.

Tri-Cities has a new name

JOHN LINEMEYER, president of the Tri-Cities Business Assn., revealed that the civic group will have a new identity shortly, the Bloomfield North Chamber of Commerce. He also announced that the Big Fish Festival is tentatively scheduled for August 25-26.

Welcome, Gary Garner; retired Jackson Prison employee

GARY GARNER spent 24 years of his life in Jackson Prison – and Our Club welcomes him as its newest member, approved by the Board of Directors at its December meeting. EARL LOWEN is his sponsor.

Gary, you see, didn't wear the typical "resident's" garb. He was an employee of the prison as its paint shop foreman. "It was an exciting job," he told us at our Nov. 29 meeting, even getting roughed up by a prisoner on one occasion. He retired a couple of years ago and now lives in Keego Harbor.

Jackson Prison is the largest walled prison in the U. S., encompassing 40 acres to house 2,000 prisoners currently (at one time, up to 5,000!), who are serving at least 10 years to life.

A couple of interesting items Gary shared:

KEEGO HARBOR
OPTIMIST CLUB

*Friends of
Youth*

FOR THE
YEAR 2006



**OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL**

Friend of Youth

REALIZING OUR MISSION ***

More than 100 youngsters use their creativity in **decorating pumpkins for Halloween** *** Our Club donates \$200 in support of **Abbott Middle Schools' musical production** in March; we also pledge to support through attendance *** We contribute \$200 to the **West Bloomfield Youth Coalition** in support of their programs partnering youths and parents *** A dozen members of the Abbott Middle School orchestra **displayed their considerable talents** at our breakfast meeting *** We contribute **\$100 to each of three families** to make their holidays a bit brighter and merrier *** More than **500 youths** who attend Roosevelt School or are members of a number of Cub Scout or Girl Scout troops, or who play in the Lakeland Girls Hockey League or are represented by the Roosevelt Student Council had a **family day of fun bowling and raised dollars** for their respective club treasuries by participating in Our Club's annual "Bowling for Kids" *** **About 100 students** at Abbott Middle School participated in the Oratorical Contest; the dozen finalists did a grand job of telling us why "The Future is Bright because..." *** **More than 200 kids** enjoyed the annual Easter Egg Roll *** Some **15 outstanding students** from area schools were lauded on Student Appreciation Day *** Our Club awarded **seven graduating seniors scholarships totaling \$4,500** to help them in their entry into college; they were honored at the annual "Michigan Week" breakfast *** We contributed \$135 in support of **Elizabeth Magee's MSU extension project** of making back packs *** We supported the annual **Keego Harbor Memorial Day Parade** with a \$100 donation; the parade attracted thousands of spectators *** We gave \$100 to Abbott seventh grade Boy Scout, **Tommy Van den Ende**, to help him reach his goal of raising the funds necessary to attend the Boy Scout Jamboree in London, England, in July 2007 *** **More than a hundred kids** attended the Roosevelt School Summer Camp. *** Our Club is a

major \$500 sponsor of the annual **Skate Night** in cooperation with the Keego Harbor Police Dept. Hundreds of youths enjoy an afternoon of safe fun on bikes, skateboards, etc.



Thank you . . . to the following individuals and businesses who have made a commitment as a Friend of Youth through their sponsorship of the programs and activities of Our Club for the benefit of the youth of our community for 2006.

Ashok Gupta, M.D.
Bagley & Langan, PLLC
Billy J. Stallard
Carl's Golfland
Coach's Olympia Grill
Complete Insurance
DZI Maintenance
Ember's Deli
Embroidery & Stuff and
Ice Tribal Productions
Greg J. Slagon
Karagosian Jewelers
Keego Energy
Keego Hardware
Linear Contemporary Furniture
Mary Donnelly Public House
NationalCity Bank
Pixley Funeral Home
Roosevelt School PCG
Sylvan Market
The Jacket Club
The Lodge
The Paint Can
Uptowne Blossoms by Nicholas
Visions of Sylvan Lake
Worldwide Cabinets

3-ON-3 HOCKEY

(continued from page 1)

on half an ice rink. Thus, there will be two games at once, something which St. Mary's NHL-size arena can handle.

The formal name of this project is "Original Six 3-on-3 Hockey Challenge." The "original six" part is the brainstorm of St. Mary's varsity coach, Brian Klanow. The teams in each division will be named after the NHL's original six charter members: Detroit, Chicago, Boston, New York, Toronto and Montreal.

"We have been looking for a major fund-raising project," said President Ed Simons. "This has the potential to be just that. But it will take a lot of work on the part of each and every member of the club."

Klanow said this 3-on-3 play will be a good way for youth and adults to develop their shooting and skating skills.

Paul Lipson, Eddie Delbridge, Don Horkey, Bill Bertakis and Dan Peters are among the members who have been involved in the early stages of this project.

The goal is to attract six teams in 21 divisions, starting with the birth years for boys from 1999 thru 1988, then escalating to high school and men's open and recreational teams. Girls teams will be organized according to these age groups: under 10, under 12, under 14, under 16 and under 18. Women's teams will follow the men's pattern. Each team will be guaranteed to play at least three games.

Registration is \$400 per team. Each member of the team will be furnished with a jersey.

Several sponsorship levels are available, beginning with \$10,000 for the right to have the tourney named after the sponsor. Other levels are \$5,000 scaled down to \$500. A program book will also be an advertising opportunity.

Tentatively, the schedule calls for games to be played on the weekends of Thursday-Sunday, April 19-22, Thursday-Sunday, April 26-29, and Thursday-Sunday, May 3-6.

A brochure, poster and other informational materials are being developed at this time. For more information, contact Ed Simons at (248) 891-8848 or Brian Klanow at (248) 706-4200.

Optimist float in Rose Parade

"It's Love" is the theme of the Optimist float that will be featured in the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade on Jan. 1. Themed "Our Good Nature," and featuring Star Wars' creator George Lucas as Grand Marshal, this year's parade will cover the legendary five-and-a-half-mile parade route down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena, California.

The Optimist float will feature the work of dozens of Optimist volunteers who painstakingly place the live flowers and other organic material on the framework to produce a dog and cat showing their good nature toward each other.

HGTV will show the parade without commercials beginning at 11 a.m. on New Year's Day.

Bosley thanks Club for the Pillar award

Jerry Bosley, one of the 1973 charter members of Our Club, says the award he received from us is the most meaningful one he's ever received.

The club presented him, belatedly, the Pillar Award at the Nov. 15 meeting in gratitude and acknowledgment of his 44 years of service to the Optimists, including 33 with the Keego Harbor club.

"The award summarizes my O. I. Career for the most of 44 years and supersedes one and all of any earlier awards I have received," he wrote in a letter to President Ed Simons.

"Consequently, I'll revere it above any – for all time – and just let it speak for itself here at home."

Bosley was Michigan District governor in 1972-73 and president of Our Club in 1988-89 in addition to numerous other positions on a national, state and local level.



Merry Christmas!
Happy Hanukkah!
Happy Kwanza!
Happy New Year!



Special enclosures

This is rather convoluted, so the treasurer (who also happens to be the Editor) hopes you can follow all of this:

Three enclosures accompany this issue: (1) an appeal for the Annual Sponsor, a very important source of "seed money" to help us with our projects; (2) Our Club's financial report for 2005-2006; and (3) Our Club's roster as of December.

These enclosures were passed out at the Dec. 13 meeting. It is enclosed with this newsletter who were not at the meeting and who receive the newsletter by the post office. The enclosures are also being sent to those members who were not at the meeting and who receive the newsletter by e-mail.

Got that? The treasurer hopes so. If you didn't, contact him.

Mentoring program on the way

PAUL LIPSON reports that the long-sought for mentoring program is in its beginning stages. In cooperation with the West Bloomfield Youth Coalition, Our Club is sponsoring this program whereby eighth graders from Abbott Middle School will be tutoring students from Roosevelt School. The program will get underway formally after the holidays following a period of training. More details about this exciting project in the next newsletter.