



OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

FEBRUARY 2009

Coming Attractions!

● **PROGRAM CHAIR FOR FEBRUARY: DON HORKEY**

THURSDAY, FEB. 19 – PROGRAM: Alan Krause, Managing Partner, Express employment professionals. Topic: “Generations”

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, FEB. 20-21 – Abbott Middle School presents “Into the Woods,” at West Bloomfield High School. At 7 p.m. on Friday; at 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday..

THURSDAY, FEB. 26 – PROGRAM: Dale Stuart, Keego Harbor City Manager.

SATURDAY, FEB. 28 – Michigan District 2nd Quarter Regional Meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., ConCorde Inn, Clinton Township.

● **PROGRAM CHAIR FOR MARCH: ED SIMONS**

THURSDAY, MARCH 5 – PROGRAM: The 4-H Club

TUESDAY, MARCH 10 – Jacket Club annual Wild Dinner, 6 p.m., Santia Hall.

THURSDAY, MARCH 12 – Program to be announced.

THURSDAY, MARCH 19 – Program to be announced.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25 – ORATORICAL CONTEST, 7 p.m., Abbott Middle School.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 – Program to be announced.

● **PROGRAM CHAIR FOR APRIL: SID RUBIN**

● **PROGRAM CHAIR FOR MAY: CHUCK COMPTON**

Perfect day to goof off playing golf in the snow

It was a perfect day for winter-time golf. Snow was at least a foot deep, even more in places. The footing was a bit slippery here and there, but the weatherman cooperated with 40 degree temperature under partly cloudy skies.

Seven foursomes showed up Feb. 7 at the Keego Harbor Country Club for our “Goofin’ Golf Outing.” About a dozen others gathered at Gino’s Restaurant for the post-game pizza and salad, and prizes for everyone.

When all the scores were compiled, “Goofin’ the Optimistic Groundhog” trophy went to the foursome of Eddie Delbridge, Mike Frontera, Steve Palmer and Dale Stuart with a scrambled score of 30. Their names will be engraved on the trophy for all to admire for the next 12 months.

All in all, this was one of the more successful outings in recent years. It bodes well for the future.

Perfect day for raffle winners, too

We also concluded our raffle campaign with the drawing for prizes after the golfing was done. Prize winners were: Carl Fornell, of West Bloomfield, \$1,000; Mike Pavlovich, of Biglerville, Pa., \$500; Nancy Petsch, of White Lake, \$200; Terri Klochko, of Orchard Lake, \$100; and Rachel Szczembara, of Garden City, \$100.



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 Thursday at 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:
MICHAEL K. SELTZER

2008-2009 OFFICERS:
President STEVE PALMER
1st Vice President EDDIE DELBRIDGE
2nd Vice President CHUCK COMPTON
Treasurer DON HORKEY
Secretary PAUL LIPSON

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ED SIMONS*
KATHY SPARKMAN*
GAYLE STURT
BILL BERTAKIS (ex officio)
(* 2 year terms).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
DON HORKEY

Coalition partners youth with parents and educators

Where are we dropping the ball in regard to the kids in the community?

Program Notes

The answer to that question is being answered by the Greater West Bloomfield Coalition for Youth, an organization that seeks to form a partnership among parents, educators and youth in the community.

Donna Shearer, the Coalition director, presented an overview of the group's activities and goals at our Jan. 8 meeting.

The West Bloomfield coalition is one of 14 such groups in Oakland County. She cited Our Club as one example of how partnerships are formed through the mentoring program that we sponsor with kids from Abbott Middle School and Roosevelt School.

A major goal this year is drug education, specifically, marijuana. "The perception kids have," Donna said, "is that marijuana is not harmful. But it's a far different drug than it was in the 70s. It is tied to depression and mental disorders, and permeates everything in a kid's life."

The coalition is in the second year of a five-year \$500,000 federal grant to promote a drug-free environment in the community.

Donna was accompanied by Audrey Moiseeff, youth director, and John Zhang, co-director of Teens Making Change. Both shared their activities schedule for the months ahead.

Kids compete against the world in today's schools

High schools today are nowhere the same when we went to school, member BOB PYLES, principal of West Bloomfield High School, told us at the Jan. 22 meeting.

"The bar is always being raised. Kids are competing against the world."

He cited several examples of the success that West Bloomfield High is enjoying, including a high degree of respect in the community and a 92 percent rate of graduates heading for college.

Among other observations:

- State requirements have been toughened so that students are required to take four years of English, four years of math, three science courses and history and civics classes.

- Tutoring classes are provided, including after-school sessions, for students who need help with the tougher curriculum.

- Students' reports are online weekly, enabling parents to follow their child's progress and have contact with teachers.

- Advanced placement courses are encouraged for those who can handle the college-level studies.



THE RISE OF PUNS

1. The roundest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. I thought I saw an eye doctor on an Alaskan island, but it turned out to be an optical Aleutian.
3. She was only a whisky maker, but he loved her still.
4. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
5. The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.
6. No matter how much you push the envelope, it'll still be stationery.
7. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
8. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blownapart.
9. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
10. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
11. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
12. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
13. Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, "You stay here, I'll go on a head."
14. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
15. A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: "Keep off the Grass."
16. A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was, a nurse said, "No change yet."
17. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
18. It's not that the man did not know how to juggle, he just didn't have the balls to do it.
19. The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
20. The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.
21. A backward poet writes inverse.
22. In democracy it's your vote that counts. In feudalism it's your count that votes.
23. When cannibals ate a missionary, they got a taste of religion.
24. Don't join dangerous cults: Practice safe sects!

BRAIN TEASERS

Study the following brain teaser ;then see if you can answer without looking at the answer below.

A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?

JUST ASKING

Q: How can you avoid that terrible curse of the elderly wrinkles?
A: Take off your glasses.

(The third. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead)

**OPTIMIST CLUB
OF KEEGO
HARBOR**

*Friends of
Youth
for 2009*

Thank you . . . to the following individuals and businesses who, through their generosity, have helped make possible the programs and activities of Our Club for the benefit of the youth of our community for 2009 (as of 2/10/09).

Complete
Insurance, Inc.

In memory of
David Palmer

In honor of
Ed Simons

Keego Energy

Tony's Embers Deli

Zilka Heating &
Cooling

Announcing . . .

OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

Friends of Youth for 2009

HERE IS AN IMPORTANT WAY FOR YOU, your family and your friends to become an integral player in helping Our Club achieve its mission of "bringing out the best in kids." . . .

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE "FRIEND OF YOUTH" will be directed to the Scholarship Program. In the last nine years, 48 students have been the recipients of more than \$37,000 in tuition assistance. We feel proud that we are able to give these deserving young men and women a "little push" in the right direction toward a career that eventually will make them contributing citizens to society. . . . **DONATIONS ARE \$100.** They may be made in the name of the donor or in honor of or in memory of a dear friend.

YES, I/We are happy to make a donation of **\$100** to be a Keego Harbor Optimist Club "Friend of Youth" for 2009 in support of the Club's Scholarship Program. *(Make check payable to: Optimist International Foundation. Your contribution is tax deductible.)*

My/Our donation is enclosed.

I/We pledge our donation. I/We will send it by _____.

NAME OF "FRIEND OF YOUTH" DONOR:

In honor of: In memory of:

Address of Donor:

Phone: _____

Please make a copy of this form for your records. Mail to: Mr. Steve Palmer, President; PO Box 535; Keego Harbor, MI 48320. For information, contact Mr. Palmer at 248-865-6620.