

NEWSLETTER OF

OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

JANUARY 2006

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: DON BROSE

MICHIGAN DISTRICT THEME: "Illuminating Our Youth"

2005-2006 OFFICERS: *President* ED SIMONS; *1st Vice President* GAYLE STURT; *2nd Vice President* BOB BURNS; *Treasurer* DON HORKEY; *Secretary* PAUL LIPSON; *Directors* JERRY BOSLEY*, "BUZZ" BROWN, CHARLES COMPTON, VALERIE EDINGTON*, BARB NORDEEN, DAN PETERS*. (* 2 year terms). **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** DON HORKEY.

Coming Attractions!

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 4, 2006 – HAPPY NEW YEAR! Program to be announced; Board meeting.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 11 – PROGRAM: Visit to Akiva Hebrew school (*Directions below*); EARLY BIRD RAFFLE DRAWING #2.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18 – PROGRAM: Keego Harbor City Councilman Sid Rubin; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #1.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 25 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #2.

SATURDAY, JAN. 28 – WINTER GOLF OUTING, 9 a.m., at Keego Harbor Country Club. (*See enclosed flyer*)

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1 – Program to be announced; Board meeting; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #3.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8 – PROGRAM: Kendra Hearn, Director of Curriculum, West Bloomfield Schools; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #4.

SATURDAY, FEB, 11 – 2nd QUARTER MICHIGAN DISTRICT REGIONAL MEETING at Oakland Community College, Auburn Hills.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12 – BOWLING FOR KIDS, 1 p.m., at Sylvan Lanes.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #5.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22 – Program to be announced; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #6.

NOTE: Jan. 11 meeting in Southfield

Our Jan. 11 meeting site moves from Keego Harbor to Southfield. TERI GIANNETTI will be our host of a visit to Akiva Hebrew School, where she is the principal.

The school is located at 21100 West 12 Mile Road, EAST of Telegraph Road

(between Lahser and Evergreen roads). So, get yourself to the Telegraph-12 Mile Road intersection and make a Michigan left (head EAST) on 12 Mile.

Be there promptly at 7:30 a.m. In addition to the tour, we'll hold our second Early Bird drawing.

!!! ACTIVITIES !!!

SELL THOSE TICKETS!

GOAL: 300 sold = \$3,000 profit

Our Club's 15-Week raffle has proven to be a successful fund-raiser. What makes it unique is that a person who purchases a ticket is eligible for each of the 45 prizes drawn (three prizes a week for 15 weeks starting Jan. 18). It has happened several times that an individual has won more than once.

That can be a prime selling point for members in their push to reach our goal of 300 tickets sold, which will realize a profit of \$3,000 for scholarships and other community activities for kids.

As of Dec. 28, just 180 tickets have been sold by 23 members: JoANN ANDREES, JIM BAGLEY, RALPH BEHLER, DOC BROWN, BOB BURNS, LARRY FIRMAN, JODI FRANKE, SHARON GEE, TERI GIANNETTI, VALERIE EDGINGTON, DON HORKEY, DAVE KARAGOSIAN, RAY KOBE, PAUL LIPSON, TONY MARASCO, DAN PETERS, ED SIMONS, BILLY STALLARD, GAYLE STURT, MARILYN TREUTER, DENNIS WATKINS, SUSAN WEAVER and LAURA WILLIAMS.

That means 24 members have not sold or even purchased one ticket for themselves. **C'mon, gang! It's a TEAM EFFORT! SELL/BUY THOSE TICKETS!!!**

EARLY BIRD WINNERS of \$25 prizes on Dec. 21 were LAURA WILLIAMS (twice!), TERI GIANNETTI and TONY MARASCO. The second Early Bird drawing will be on Jan. 11 and the first official drawing on Jan. 18.

FOR TICKET INFORMATION: Don Horkey (734) 453-7226 or dhorkey@sbcglobal.net

OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

15-WEEK RAFFLE, 2006

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

*****2006 PRIZE WINNERS*****

EARLY BIRD DRAWINGS:

DEC. 21: \$25 each to LAURA WILLIAMS (twice), TERI GIANNETTI and TONY MARASCO.

JAN. 11: \$25 each to

***OFFICIAL DRAWINGS:* Week 1 – JAN. 18:**

111 SPONSORS 111

KEEGO HARBOR OPTIMIST CLUB

Friends of Youth

FOR THE YEAR 2006

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.

Carl's Golfland, Dr. Ashok Gupta, Keego Energy, NationalCity Bank, Pixley Funeral Home, Greg J. Slagon, Billy J. Stallard.

'Friends of Youth' provide 'seed money' in our service

A new calendar year presents a new opportunity for Our Club to seek out those special "Friends of Youth" to help underwrite the many activities we undertake for the youth in our community.

So far in the early stages of our campaign, seven individuals and businesses have made a commitment. Their donation of \$150 gives Our Club a cushion of funds to help us realize our mission, namely, "bringing out the best in kids."

REALIZING OUR MISSION

Our Club is a major \$500 sponsor of the annual Skate Night in October in cooperation with the Keego Harbor Police Dept. Hundreds of youths enjoy an afternoon of safe fun on bikes, skateboards, etc. . . . More than 100 youngsters put 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 Blomfield Youth Coalition in support of their programs partnering youths and parents . . . A dozen members of the Abbott Middle School orchestra display their considerable talents at our breakfast meeting . . . We contribute \$100 to each of three families to make their holidays a bit brighter and merrier.

111 PROGRAMS 111

Abbott kids on stage

At our Nov. 30 meeting, Julie Music, of Abbott Middle School, told us about a musical, "Children of Eden," Abbott students will be putting on March 3-4. Julie is the director of the event that will involve over 100 children on stage. A related task is seeking out the \$12,000 it is estimated that the production will cost. Our Club's Board voted to

contribute \$200 toward the production as well as pledge to support through the purchase of tickets to attend the shows.

Teens partner with parents

At our Dec. 7 meeting, Donna Schaerer, executive director of the West Bloomfield Youth Coalition, gave us a rundown on the numerous activities the Coalition is sponsoring to build partnerships between teens and adults to help kids reach their potential. Twice a month, she said that youths from seven different area high schools, members of a youth advisory committee, decide which activities the Coalition should pursue. One of the projects is a Spring workshop, "Parents who Host Lose the Most," about parents hosting parties for kids in their homes. She said the Coalition is planning a program whereby teenagers would mentor at-risk third and fourth graders.

The Coalition is collecting used cell phones. Call (248) 360-3760 for information.

The future of Sorter Park?

At the Dec. 14 meeting, city councilman BOB BURNS, City manager CAROLYN LEHR and Roosevelt Principal STEVE PALMER asked for our ideas about re-inventing Rose Sorter Park for greater public use. The park is located behind what was once the site of Keego Harbor's City Hall. The city and West Bloomfield Schools are co-partnering the project. A number of public forums have produced a range of ideas, such as exercise trails, picnic areas, swimming pool, special events, etc. There is no timetable; this is a period of gathering ideas.

(No one asked the question, but what is the future of the Keego Harbor Country Club?)

Abbott musicians are a holiday delight

Eleven members of the Abbott Middle School orchestra enthralled the membership at its Dec. 21 meeting. Directed by Lynn Brosnan, the youths, who volunteered for their early-morning performance, played a selection of popular classical holiday favorites, pieces that Brosnan said they chose and practiced on their own, over and above their classroom assignments. Madelaine Hughes (seated at the table) began the morning with a pair of violin selections for her debut public performance. Principal (and Optimist member) AMY HUGHES is to be congratulated for responding so magnificently to our request for our traditional, annual holiday entertainment by the talented kids from Abbott. We're happy to be "bringing out the best" in them.

111 CLUB NOTES 111

3 **JACKET CLUB** – The Jacket Club, one of Our Club's loyal supporters, hosts its annual wild game dinner March 7 at Gino's Santia Hall. BARB NORDEEN has raffle tickets. We usually get a table. Reserve the date.

3 **GOLF JULY 28** – President ED SIMONS and treasurer DON HORKEY have reserved Friday, July 28, for our golf outing at Pontiac Country Club. You'll be hearing more details, but this location gives us the option to put on a low-cost, high quality outing. Start thinking now about golfers and foursomes.

3 **ID TAGS** – VALERIE EDGINGTON and LAURA WILLIAMS deserve a big "Thank you" for putting together custom-made ID tags to wear at our meetings (and any other

Optimist function).

3 **MISSION** – The Board of Directors at its December meeting approved a \$200 contribution to Abbott Middle School for the musical production in March, and a \$200 donation to the West Bloomfield Youth Coalition.

3 **PROGRAM IDEAS** – Have an idea for a program during our meetings? Let either PAUL LIPSON, SHARON GEE or DON HORKEY know about it.

Dues are due

Treasurer DON HORKEY reminds one and all to **pay your dues!** Invoices will be arriving in your mailboxes shortly after Jan. 1.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the report of our treasury for the 2004-2005 year is included with this newsletter to members only. The good news is the bottom line: Immediate past treasurer JERRY BOSLEY reported a balance of \$4,452 to start the 2005-2006 year, an increase of about \$1,200 from the year earlier. .

DOWN THE ROAD . . .

- TUESDAY, MARCH 14, Annual Oratorical Contest at Abbott Middle School.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, Student Appreciation Day.
- FRIDAY, JULY 28, Summer golf outing at Pontiac Country Club.

Ralph 'slowly getting better'

RALPH BEHLER's health is improving, he told us in a note, thanking us for the basket of fruit. "Totsy and I have really enjoyed it."

He added: "My fractured pelvis is very slowly getting better. I miss the Optimist meetings and hope to get there before too long."

Being the faithful and generous Optimist he is, Ralph sent his payment for five raffle tickets.

MEANWHILE . . . Word has it that ANN CRAWFORD is home recuperating after a stay at St. Joe's Hospital. Keep them both in your thoughts and prayers.

SMALL STEPS TO HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR JANUARY

- Sit up straight at your desk at work; for retirees, sit up straight in your rocking chair.
- Substitute water, 100 percent fruit juice or diet soda for sugary drinks.
- Pick up an adult education catalog and sign up for a class.
- Keep cut-up fruit and veggies in the refrigerator for snacking.
- Don't eat late at night.

HONOR ROLL NEW MEMBERS 2005-2006

KENDRA HEARN, Ph.D. (*sponsor*, JoAnn Andrees); WALTER SANDS, JR. (*sponsor*, Ralph Behler); AMY HUGHES (*sponsor*, JoAnn Andrees); TONY MARASCO (*sponsor*, JoAnn Andrees)♦

LET'S CELEBRATE!

ANNIVERSARIES DURING JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS: Jan. 4, LARRY FIRMAN; Jan. 10, BRENDAN MOLLOY; Jan. 11, SHARON GEE; Jan. 24, PAUL LIPSON.

MEMBERSHIPS: 27 YEARS – GINO SANTIA (Jan. 1, 1979) and JIM SONKISS (Jan. 1, 1979)

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

||| HUMOR |||

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

A man in Newfoundland calls his son in Calgary two days before Christmas and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough."

"Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the father says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Vancouver and tell her."

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone. "No way they're getting divorced!" she shouts, "I'll take care of this." She calls Newfoundland and screams at her father, "You are not getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there by tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife. "Okay," he says, "they're coming for Christmas and paying their own way."

THE SILENT TREATMENT

A man and his wife were having some problems at home and were giving each other the silent treatment. Suddenly, the man realized that the next day, he would need his wife to wake him at 5:00 a.m. for an early morning business flight.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence (and LOSE), he wrote on a piece of paper, "Please wake me at 5:00 a.m." He left it where he knew she would find it.

The next morning the man woke up, only to discover it was 9:00 a.m. and he had missed his flight. Furious, he was about to go and see why his wife hadn't wakened him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said, "It is 5:00 a.m. Wake up."

HIT THE ROAD!

I've sure gotten old.! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees. Fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.

ONE LINERS by Henny Youngman

□ You should see the way my wife looks in the morning. She ran after the garbage man and said, "Am I too late for the garbage?" He said, "No, jump in."

This woman driver hit a guy and knocked him 6 feet in the air. Then she sued him for leaving the scene of an accident.

A convict sentenced to the electric chair called to ask his attorney's advice. The lawyer said, "Don't sit down."