



# OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

JUNE-JULY 2009

## *Coming Attractions!*

**THURSDAY, JUNE 25** – Program to be announced

**MONDAY-THURSDAY, JUNE 29-JULY 2** – **Millionaires Party at Fountains Golf Course, Clarkston, 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.** This is our second time at this fund-raising effort. While we realized a minimal profit for the time spent on it, we're hoping that the situation will improve for the sake of our scholarship fund. The Fountains is located on Maybee Road in Clarkston. **NOTE:** Volunteers are needed, the minimum of two persons at a time, either for the full shift from about 5:30 p.m. to when the gambling ends (no later than 2 a.m.), or in smaller shifts of time to fit your schedule. **ED SIMONS (248-891-8848)** and **PAUL LIPSON (248-310-9086)** are compiling the volunteer lineup. Call them to help out.

**THURSDAY, JULY 2** – Program to be announced

**THURSDAY, JULY 9** – Program to be announced

**THURSDAY, JULY 16** – Program to be announced

**THURSDAY, JULY 23** – Program to be announced

**THURSDAY, JULY 30** – Program to be announced

## **Scholarships awarded to 3 outstanding youths**

Our Club awarded scholarships totaling \$2,750 to three high school graduates to assist them in their pursuit of college studies. They were feted at the annual Michigan Week breakfast in May. They are:

**Amber Buchheister, the Ledge Tomlinson \$1,250 Scholarship Award Winner, a graduate of West Bloomfield High School:** In the words of the scholarship committee: "Amber demonstrates an amazing degree of resiliency and courage in every aspect of her life. Her hard work and energy is surpassed by her warmth and compassion. We should all be glad that she has chosen to pursue nursing as her career path. She will be starting her collegiate life at Oakland Community College this fall. Amber has had to face her mother's serious illness. At a time when many young people become focused on themselves, she supports her family. With amazing warmth and generosity, she has worked with the school Science Olympiad Team as well as helping with the community clothing swap. We are proud that Amber is part of our community."

**Marco Santia, a graduate of West Bloomfield High School, \$750 scholarship:** "Marco is graduating with honors from West Bloomfield High School and moving on to Michigan State University where he will study computer science. He has been involved as section leader and horn sergeant in the WBHS Marching Band which won honors as being the best in the state of Michigan! Marco has also found time for Jazz Band, film production, and the Japanese Club. Marco has been a volunteer at Roosevelt's Summer Camp and the Commerce library. He is strongly tied to our community and we're grateful for that connection."

**Bradford Woelke, a graduate of Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, \$750 scholarship:** "Brad is graduating from Notre Dame Preparatory with a 4.0 GPA. He has been involved in basketball, soccer and choir during his high school years earning honors in both sports and academics. He will be attending Kalamazoo College in the fall with medicine as his career path. Brad has a strong history of volunteerism both in the community and at school. He has volunteered for Oakland County 4-H, the Salvation Army, and for the past five years, Keego Harbor Parks and Recreation. What a great asset to our community."



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](http://www.keegoharboroptimist.org)

**MICHIGAN DISTRICT GOVERNOR:**  
MICHAEL K. SELTZER

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

*Directors*  
JOANN ANDREES  
BARBARA NORDEEN  
NANCY PETSCH\*  
ED SIMONS\*  
KATHY SPARKMAN\*  
GAYLE STURT  
BILL BERTAKIS (*ex officio*)  
(\* 2 year terms).

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**  
DON HORKEY

## HONOR ROLL NEW MEMBERS

2008-2009

JoANN ANDREES (*reinstated; original sponsor,  
Ralph Behler in 1995*)

MATT EVANS (*sponsor, Don Horkey*)

TOM SHELTON (*sponsor, JoAnn Andrees*)

JOHN SULLIVAN (*sponsor, Nancy Petsch*)

MEL HAGER (*sponsor, Ed Simons*)

## LET'S CELEBRATE!

### ANNIVERSARIES DURING JUNE & JULY

#### BIRTHDAYS:

JULY 16 – STEVE PALMER

JULY 19 – CHUCK COMPTON

JULY 24 – BARB NORDEEN



#### MEMBERSHIPS:

3 YEARS – BILL BERTAKIS (7/9/2006); NANCY  
PETSCH (7/9/2006)

4 YEARS – STEVE PALMER (6/30/2005)

13 YEARS – MARILYN TREUTER (7/10/1996)

(If we missed your date, let Don Horkey know at  
[dhorkey@wowway.com](mailto:dhorkey@wowway.com) or call 586-737-7280.)

## 21 students recognized

Our Club's annual Student Recognition Day saluted 21 youths from area schools during the May 14 event hosted at Abbott Middle School. PAUL LIPSON chaired the project and emceed the program that recognized the achievements and characters of three students each from Orchard Lake St. Mary's Prep, West Bloomfield High School, Laker Academy, Abbott Middle School, and Roosevelt Elementary School, and six students from Abbott who participated in Our Club's mentoring program.

## Nice parade, Mel

Under MEL HAGER's leadership, the annual Memorial Day parade through Keego and Sylvan Lake was a huge success. Our Club was a sponsor of the parade. BARBARA NORDEEN was cited by Mel as a gold award sponsor.

The best part of the parade, says Mel, is that "we have surplus money for next year."

## Eddie Delbridge to preside over Our Club

EDDIE DELBRIDGE will be Our Club's president for the 2009-2010 Optimist Year that begins October 1.

An Optimist member since 2006, Eddie is a freelance public relations agent and fund-raiser who has been involved with numerous community and civic organizations, both profit and non-profit. She is a willing participant in every activity and project that Our Club puts on.

Eddie will be the 36th individual (and only the third woman) to serve as president of Our Club since its founding in 1973.

Other officers for the coming year:

MATT EVANS, first vice president.

KATHY SPARKMAN, second vice president.

PAUL LIPSON, secretary.

CHUCK COMPTON, treasurer (succeeding Don Horkey).

## Bringing out the best in us!

When the appeal was made on behalf of a mother stricken with severe cancer, and facing a loss of health care benefits, there was no question that Our Club should extend a helping hand.

However, our treasury is a bit limited. The answer: pass the hat! And in a matter of minutes, the request for \$300 was fulfilled – and the funds were given to the family right after the meeting.

It seems that the Optimist motto of "bringing out the best in kids" could also be adjusted to "bringing out the best in Optimist members!"

## Tony's the best, too!

Member TONY PERKOVIC and his restaurant, Tony's Deli (which just so happens to be the site of our weekly meetings), was voted the "Best Deli in Oakland County" in a poll of Oakland Press readership recently. Congratulations, Tony. We didn't need the poll to tell us you're the best.

## Thank you, Joan

Thanks to Joan Tomlinson for her "Friend of Youth" donation in memory of her dear husband, Ledge, the esteemed founder of Our Club.

◆ **Shirts** – BARB NORDEEN is the person to see to order one of the new good-looking shirts for Our Club members. It's just \$20 complete with logo and your name. It's a nice way to promote the presence of Our Club in the community.

◆ **Fire!** – BILL BERTAKIS was offered the job as investigative photographer for the West Bloomfield Fire Dept. Would you believe that the first fire he covered was next door to his home – in early morning hours? Bill got his photos. Fortunately, no one was injured in the blaze.

**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  
Jim Bagley Sr.**

**In memory of  
"Bill" Bertakis**

**In memory of  
Janet Gee**

**In memory of  
David Palmer**

**In honor of  
Ed Simons**

**In memory of  
Ledge Tomlinson**

**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.

## Financial wisdom for life

At our May 21 meeting, we had two programs.

The first was presented by Susan Nichols and Marge Johnston, both staff members of Camp Millionaire, with the goal of teaching kids "financial wisdom for life." They do this in week-long seminars entitled "Making, Managing and Multiplying Your Wealth." They are attempting to interest school districts in the idea of offering the class for credit. For more information, log on to [www.creativewealth.org](http://www.creativewealth.org)

## Trust animals, trust humans

Lloyd Dockham, program director of Promise Village near Davisburg, told us about what he described as the "best kept secret" in Oakland County. For the past decade, abused and neglected boys have been treated through what he called "animal therapy." Lloyd said, "It's a transition: you trust animals, you trust humans." The boys, who are referred either privately or through the state and are between the ages of 7 to 17, stay in the Village for nine to 12 months "until they have a better

place to go." Lloyd said the program's success rate is very high in this atmosphere of independent living. For more information: call 1-800-A-PROMISE or log on to [www.promisevillage.com](http://www.promisevillage.com) CHUCK COMPTON, program chair for May, introduced Lloyd.

## Police service: at what price?

SID RUBIN, mayor of Keego Harbor, offered an impromptu program at our June 4 meeting. Citing the city's balanced budget for the coming fiscal year, police protection was the main issue he talked about. The police department takes up 44 percent of the city's budget. "Costs keep escalating, and revenues are going down," Sid said. The suggestion is that the Keego department operate with a part-time force rather than full-time. There's also the notion to bring in the Oakland County Sheriff Dept. for police coverage. "But at what price?" Sid asked. A meeting June 23 with the city councils of both Keego Harbor and neighboring Sylvan Lake will be held to discuss the county's proposal.

## Four Things You Cannot Recover

The stone . . . *after the throw!*

The word . . . *after it's said!*

The occasion . . . *after the loss!*

The time . . . *after it's gone!*



## HEADLINES 20 years from now: 2029

- > Ozone created by electric cars now killing millions in the seventh largest country in the world, Mexifornia, formerly known as California. White minorities still trying to have English recognized as Mexifornia's third language.
- > France pleads for global help after being taken over by Jamaica
- > Baby conceived naturally. Scientists stumped.
- > Couple petitions court to reinstate heterosexual marriage.
- > Last remaining Fundamentalist Muslim dies in the American Territory of the Middle East (formerly known as Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and Lebanon).
- > Iran still closed off; physicists estimate it will take at least 10 more years before radioactivity decreases to safe levels.
- > Castro finally dies at age 132; Cuban cigars can now be imported legally, but President Chelsea Clinton has banned all smoking.
- > George Z. Bush says he will run for President in 2036.
- > Postal Service raises price of first class stamp to \$17.89 and reduces mail delivery to Wednesdays only.
- > 85-year \$75.8 billion study: Diet and Exercise is the key to weight loss.
- > Average weight of Americans drops to 250 lbs.
- > Massachusetts executes last remaining conservative.
- > Supreme Court rules punishment of criminals violates their civil rights.
- > Average height of NBA players is now nine feet, seven inches.
- > New federal law requires that all nail clippers, screwdrivers, fly swatters and rolled-up newspapers must be registered by January 2036.
- > Congress authorizes direct deposit of formerly illegal political contributions to campaign accounts.
- > IRS sets lowest tax rate at 75 percent.
- > Florida voters still having trouble with voting machines.