



# OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

MARCH 2006

## Coming Attractions!

- FRIDAY-SATURDAY, MARCH 3-4** – “Children of Eden,” musical production by Abbott Middle School students.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8** – PROGRAM: Oakland County Commissioner Chuck Moss; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #8; Board meeting.
- TUESDAY, MARCH 14** – ORATORICAL CONTEST, 7 p.m., Abbott Middle School.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15** – PROGRAM: Tom Majcher, former Scholarship winner; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #9.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22** – PROGRAM: Oratorical Contest boy and girl winners; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #10.
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29** – PROGRAM: Tony Vrbensky, Cubmaster; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #11.
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5** – Program to be announced; Board meeting; 15-WEEK RAFFLE DRAWING #12.
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 10** – Student Appreciation Day.
- FRIDAY, JULY 28** – Summer Golf Outing at Pontiac Country Club.

## Kids to tell us why their future is bright at Oratorical Contest March 14

Kids at Abbott Middle School are in the final stages of preparing their interpretation of this year's Optimist International oratorical selection, “My Future is Bright Because...” The six boy finalists and six girl finalists will then go for gold, silver and bronze medals at the club's oratorical contest finals at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 14, at Abbott. President ED SIMONS is encouraging the membership to be there in body as well as spirit to give the kids encouragement. “The talents of these youngsters is amazing,” Ed says. The gold medal winners will advance to the regional competition and, if successful, on to the statewide contest in May.

## Our Club is ‘Honorable’

Our Club was formally recognized as a 2004-2005 Honor Club during the Michigan Optimists district regional meeting Feb. 11 at Oakland CC in Auburn Hills. Last year's president, PAUL LIPSON, accepted the accolades on behalf of the club as well as for his own outstanding leadership in achieving this ranking. In addition, Our Club was recognized as a “star club,” and Paul was hailed among the district's top six member recruiters for the six new applications he sponsored.

In addition to Paul, others representing Our Club at the conference were ED SIMONS, DON HORKEY, JERRY BOSLEY and DR. ASHOK GUPTA.

## Kids have fun bowling

More than 50 kids and their parents and friends jammed Sylvan Lanes Feb. 12 for our annual bowlathon. What made it a supreme delight was (a) the club's profit of \$1,979 in support of its mission and (b) more than \$400 that was shared with the following organizations to be used for their particular activities: Cub Scouts Troop 224; Girl Scouts troops 224, 484, 2397 and 1802; the Lakeland Girls Hockey League, and the Roosevelt Schools Student Council – a total of more than 500 youths whose lives we touched that day. Congrats to the event's leaders for a job well done: TERI GIANNETTI, GAYLE STURT, SHARON GEE, PAUL LIPSON (and Paul's wife, Judy, who helped out at the door).



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

MICHIGAN DISTRICT GOVERNOR:  
DON BROSE

MICHIGAN DISTRICT THEME:  
“Illuminating Our Youth”

2005-2006 OFFICERS:  
President ED SIMONS  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President GAYLE STURT  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President BOB BURNS  
Treasurer DON HORKEY  
Secretary PAUL LIPSON

Directors  
JERRY BOSLEY\*  
“BUZZ” BROWN  
CHARLES COMPTON  
VALERIE EDGINGTON\*  
BARB NORDEEN  
DAN PETERS\*  
(\* 2 year terms).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:  
DON HORKEY

## 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)  
JOHN LINEMEYER (*sponsor*, Chuck Compton)

## LET'S CELEBRATE!

### ANNIVERSARIES DURING FEBRUARY:

#### BIRTHDAYS:

March 5, REV. BILL KIRSH-CARR

March 6, BOB PYLES

March 18, SCOTT MACZUGA

March 27, RAY KOBE



#### MEMBERSHIPS:

17 YEARS – TERI GIANNETTI (March 1,  
1989).  
11 YEARS – PAUL LIPSON (March 30,  
1995).  
8 YEARS – DAN PETERS (March 27, 1998).  
3 YEARS – SHARON GEE (March 18,  
2003).  
2 YEARS – BETTY CHOI (March 7, 2004).

(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, 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 LAURA WILLIAMS, RALPH  
BEHLER, PAUL LIPSON and ED SIMONS.

#### OFFICIAL DRAWINGS:

Week 1 – JAN. 18: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #413, Joe Faletti (sold by  
Barb Nordeen); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #175, Ralph Behler (Ralph  
Behler); 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$25) – #338, Bob Burns (Bob Burns).

Week 2 – JAN. 25: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #78, Dennis Sheehy (Larry  
Firman); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #277, Barrett Cromwell (Ray Kobe); 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(\$25) – #302, B. Schulman (Ed Simons).

Week 3 – FEB. 1: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #279, Ray and Liz Kobe  
(Ray Kobe); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #249, Tony Marasco (Tony  
Marasco); 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$25) – #45, Irwin Goodman (Paul Lipson).

Week 4 – FEB 8: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #405, Zach Sonkiss (Jim  
Sonkiss); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #317, Greg Lenski (Larry Firman); 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(\$25) – #283, Mary Tomlinson (Teri Giannetti).

Week 5 – FEB. 15: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #302, B. Schulman (Ed  
Simons); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #183, Alan Sturt (Gayle Sturt); 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(\$25) – #280, Ruth Dietz (Ray Kobe).

Week 6 – FEB. 22: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #41, Paul Lipson (Paul  
Lipson); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #322, Danny Plantus (Ed Simons); 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(\$25) – #297, Ed Simons (Ed Simons).

Week 7 – MARCH 1: 1<sup>st</sup> (\$100) – #24, Megan Kobe (Ray  
Kobe); 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$50) – #380, Carol Hardesty (Ralph Behler); 3<sup>rd</sup>  
(\$25) – #2, Harry Karagosian (Dave Karagosian).

Week 8 – MARCH 8: .

Week 9 – MARCH 15:

Week 10 – MARCH 22:

Week 11 – MARCH 29:

Week 12 – APRIL 5:

Week 13 – APRIL 12:

Week 14 – APRIL 19:

Week 15 – APRIL 26:

■ **FAREWELL** – REV. BILL KIRCH-CARR announced  
at the March 1 meeting that he will be resigning his  
fulltime pastorate at Sylvan Lake Lutheran Church to  
pursue a position as a representative with Lutheran  
financial services. He will continue at the church for  
Sunday services. His resignation also means that he  
is resigning his membership in Our Club and expects  
to transfer to another Optimist club in either the  
Sterling Heights or Southfield areas. We wish him the  
best!

■ **TATE PARK** – President ED SIMONS will be  
meeting with the Keego Harbor Parks and Rec  
Department about the possibility of adding more  
lighting to the area. Detroit Edison says it would cost  
about \$35 a month to have a couple more lights  
installed. More details coming.

■ **MENTORS** – PAUL LIPSON reports that the  
mentoring program for third and fourth graders at  
Roosevelt School is underway, headed up by a group  
of

local high school students who are volunteering their  
time and talent. This is a project in association with  
the West Bloomfield Youth Coalition.

■ **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 will have a table.

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

■ **PAY YOUR DUES YET?** – Anytime is a good time to  
pay your dues, so says Treasurer DON HORKEY.



**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

*Friend of Youth*

## **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.



**Ashok Gupta, M.D.**  
**Bagley & Langan, PLLC**  
**Billy J. Stallard**  
**Carl's Golfland**  
**Coach's Olympia Grill**  
**Comerica Bank**  
**Complete Insurance**  
**DZI Maintenance**  
**Ember's Deli**  
**Embroidery & Stuff and Ice Tribal**  
**Productions**  
**Greg J. Slagon**  
**Jeremy's Restaurant**  
**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**  
**Visions of Sylvan Lake**  
**Worldwide Cabinets**

**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 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 **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 \*\*\* 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" \*\*\*



# The 3 R's will change to help kids compete

**FEB. 8:** The 3 R's – reading, writing and 'rithmetic – is getting a 21<sup>st</sup> century overall, member KENDRA HEARN, told us. She is the Director of Curriculum for the West Bloomfield Schools. "High schools are the most unchanged institution today," Kendra said. But change the schools must, to help the kids meet the changes demanded by Michigan's

economy moving from manufacturer-based to a global one. The new 3 R's are "rigor, relevance and relationship," based upon a change in the number of

required credits that Michigan's high school students must take in order to graduate. The old standard was a half-credit (a civic course). If the curriculum changes are approved by the state legislature, the requirements will dramatically increase to 16 to 18 credits in English, math, science, social studies, world language, phys ed and fine arts. All of this is projected to begin with the freshmen class entering in the fall of 2006. How will all of this go down? "I believe that the kids will respond to the higher standards," Kendra said. Her presentation was so interesting that we ran out of time for all of the questions; she promises to come back with a progress report and continuing discussion.

**FEB. 15:** Local photographer Bill Bertakis showed copies of the 90-page **50<sup>th</sup> anniversary history of Keego Harbor**, a production that he was an integral part of. The book costs just \$10 and includes two DVDs. Through interviews and assorted other resources, Bertakis accumulated more than 500 photos from 1908-1956 on a CD. "It was a wonderful experience," he said, "to talk with some of the people, past and current, who have shaped Keego Harbor." Proceeds from the sale of the book will go toward a kiosk for city hall and to the Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society museum.

**MARCH 1:** "Demo dog" Violet picked up a dime from the floor, pulled on the laundry basket, even "answered" the phone. These were some of the chores that assistance dogs like Violet do everyday for people with disabilities. **"Paws with a Cause"**

development director, Sue Brooks, sent Violet through her paces – with accompanying treats along the way – while explaining that the main mission of Paws with a Cause is "to create miracles." "These dogs can accomplish an incredible amount of tasks," Sue said. Training begins as a puppy for about six months. The primary benefactors of assistance dogs are adults from 16 and older who want to be independent. There are more than 1,800 such assistance dogs working in the U. S.; it costs about \$20,000 to train a dog. Paws with a Cause has its headquarters in Grand Rapids. So impressed were we with Violet that members voted a \$100 donation to "Paws." For more information, visit their web site at [www.pawswithacause.org](http://www.pawswithacause.org)

## SMALL STEPS TO HEALTH AND WELLNESS FOR MARCH

- Drink a glass of water before sitting down to a meal.
- Skip buffets or "all you can eat" restaurants.
- Avoid food portions larger than your fist.
- Choose fruit for dessert.
- Celebrate your success. Take your exercise buddy out to lunch and share an entree.



## LIFE'S FUNNIES

My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God, and I didn't.

For Sale: Wedding dress, size 8. Worn once by mistake.

The woman applying for a job in a Florida lemon grove seemed way too qualified for the job. "Look, miss," said the foreman, "have you any actual experience in picking lemons?" "Well, as a matter of fact, yes!" she replied. "I've been divorced three times."

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, my elderly neighbor and his wife were told there would be a 45-minute wait for a table. "Young man, we're both 90 years old," the husband said. "We may not have 45 minutes." They were seated immediately.

The reason congressmen try so hard to get re-elected is that they would have to earn a living under the laws they have passed.

Three friends from the local congregation were asked, "When you're in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?" Artie said: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man." Eugene commented: "I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people's lives." Al said: "I'd like them to say, 'Look, he's moving!'"

Smith climbs to the top of Mt. Sinai to get close enough to talk to God. Looking up, he asks the Lord, "God, what does a million years mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A minute." Smith asks, "And what does a million dollars mean to you?" The Lord replies, "A penny." Smith asks, "Can I have a penny?" The Lord replies, "In a minute."

A man goes to see the Rabbi. "Rabbi, something terrible is happening and I have to talk to you about it." The Rabbi asked, "What's wrong?" The man replied, "My wife is poisoning me." The Rabbi, very surprised by this, asks, "How can that be?" The man then pleads, "I'm telling you, I'm certain she's poisoning me. What should I do?" The Rabbi then offers, "Tell you what. Let me talk to her, I'll see what I can find out and I'll let you know." A week later the Rabbi calls the man and says, "Well, I spoke to your wife. I spoke to her on the phone for three hours. You want my advice?" The man said yes and the Rabbi! replied, "Take the poison."