



# OPTIMIST CLUB OF KEEGO HARBOR

OCTOBER 2009

## *Coming Attractions!*

- THURSDAY, OCT. 8 – Program to be announced.  
THURSDAY, OCT. 15 – Program to be announced.  
THURSDAY, OCT. 22 – Program to be announced.  
SATURDAY, OCT. 24 – **PUMPKIN DECORATING** at Roosevelt School.  
From 10 a.m. to about noon.  
THURSDAY, OCT. 29 – Program to be announced.  
THURSDAY, NOV. 5 – Program to be announced.  
SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22-25 – **POKER PARTY** at The Lodge,  
Orchard Lake Road, Keego Harbor. Each day, 5 p.m. to 2 a.m.  
SATURDAY, DEC. 5 – **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** at O'Toole's. More  
details coming.

## **President Eddie Delbridge:**

### **'I'm looking for new ideas'**

"I need everyone to stick around and help me" – those were the words of our incoming president, EDDIE DELBRIDGE, at the annual installation banquet Oct. 1 at the Knights of Columbus hall in Keego Harbor.

She thanked the members for their vote of confidence in electing her, but added: "I'm looking for ideas. We hope to continue what we have always done, but we need some new ideas, too."

Eddie is the 36<sup>th</sup> individual to serve as president of Our Club since its founding in 1973. She was installed by immediate past governor, Mike Seltzer, along with these other officers and directors:

**OFFICERS:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President MATT EVANS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President KATHY SPARKMAN, Treasurer CHUCK COMPTON, Secretary PAUL LIPSON.

**DIRECTORS:** BUZZ BROWN\*, MEL HAGER\*, DON HORKEY, NANCY PETSCH, TOM SHELTON\*, ED SIMONS, BILL BERTAKIS (*ex officio* in place of outgoing president Steve Palmer.) (\*) indicates 2-year terms.

In his remarks, Palmer reviewed the accomplishments of the past year, commending the members for their dedication and commitment to the spirit of Optimist, and their sense of community.

Seltzer posed challenges to the new officers to "provide leadership, inspiration and initiative" to maintain the club's role in the community.

## **Annual awards presented**

Outgoing President STEVE PALMER presented awards that are made at the annual installation dinner. They were:

"Optimist of the Year" to DON HORKEY, outgoing treasurer and editor of the newsletter.

"Spirit of Optimism" to TONY PERKOVIC, owner of Tony's Deli.

"Ledge Tomlinson Community Service Award" to JoANN ANDREES, superintendent of the West Bloomfield Schools District.

Palmer also gave special recognition to BARB NORDEEN for her generosity in donating embroidery on our club's shirts and on raffle items during the Big Fish weekend.



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

2009-2010 OFFICERS:  
President EDDIE DELBRIDGE  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President MATT EVANS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President KATHY SPARKMAN  
Treasurer CHUCK COMPTON  
Secretary PAUL LIPSON

Directors  
BUZZ BROWN\*  
MEL HAGER\*  
DON HORKEY  
NANCY PETSCH  
TOM SHELTON \*  
ED SIMONS  
BILL BERTAKIS (*ex officio*)  
(\* 2 year terms).

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:  
DON HORKEY

Since the last newsletter a couple of months ago,  
**CATCHING UP ON THE NEWS!**

The **BIG FISH FESTIVAL** in August was a good catch for the community, one of the most successful so far. Our Club had a unique idea: raffling back packs for school kids. **KATHY SPARKMAN's** idea got a big boost from **JoANN ANDREES**, who donated the backpacks and a lot of the goodies inside, along with **NANCY PETSCH** and **MATT EVANS**. Capping off the whole thing was an original embroidery design donated by **BARB NORDEEN**. We made a few bucks for the treasury, but gained a whole lot of community goodwill. **EDDIE DELBRIDGE** was on the scene gaining all kinds of publicity and notoriety for many of the vendors. **MARILYN TREUTER** spent both days in the booth keeping things in order.

**BOAT RIDES** have become the rage. We enjoyed the annual cruise around Orchard Lake, thanks to St. Mary's allowing use of its pontoon. Mayor **SID RUBIN**, however, charmed and fascinated all of us aboard his luxurious pontoon, along with a delicious breakfast buffet, around Cass Lake. **ED SIMONS**, **JOHN SCOTT** and **BILL BERTAKIS** made it an educational trip by sharing their inside knowledge of the interesting people and places on the lake.

**BREAKFAST MEETINGS** – that is, the site of them – have become an issue for the club. In the last couple of months, we have had meetings on Orchard and Cass lakes, a couple of times in the gazebo at Rose Sorter Park, and in the Keego Harbor City Council chambers. The issue is economics: **TONY PERKOVIC** at Tony's Deli provides us with a nutritious breakfast, but the cost, even at a rock bottom rate, was making a serious dent into our treasury balance. As of this writing, we are in city hall. However, the discussion is ongoing about where we will eventually land, so keep in touch.

**GREAT NEWS!** Mayor Rubin informed us that one of our former scholarship awardees, Jacob Fletcher (in 2001), is one of three individuals from across the country selected to serve an internship at the NASA base in California. Jacob is one of 48 students Our Club has provided with \$37,150 in scholarship funds since 1999. It gives us a warm feeling that we are helping to "bring out the best in kids."

We did our **CIVIC DUTY** Sept. 19 by cleaning up the roadside between Commerce Road and Middlebelt Road. Our next time comes in the spring.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** Roosevelt School Principal **TOM SHELTON** and his wife, Heidi, became parents of Carson James on August 31. He weighed in at 8 pounds-9 ounces and had lots of hair, says Daddy. Carson is getting a lot of attention from his sister Mattie, 9, and Luke, 5. Our Club approved a \$100 donation to our Friends of Youth scholarship fund in honor of Carson . . . on a professional level Tom reports that

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# LET'S CELEBRATE!

## ANNIVERSARIES DURING SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

### BIRTHDAYS:

SEPT. 6 – DR. ASHOK GUPTA

SEPT. 20 – TONY MARASCO

SEPT. 22 – JoANN ANDREES  
and DON HORKEY

OCT. 13 – GAYLE STURT

OCT. 17 – SID RUBIN

NOV. 8 – DAVE KARAGOSIAN



### MEMBERSHIPS:

36 YEARS – CHUCK COMPTON (10/1/1973;  
charter member)

4 YEARS – AMY HUGHES (10/20/2005)

3 YEARS – JOHN SCOTT (10/21/2006)

2 YEARS – KATHY SPARKMAN (10/12/2007);  
BUZZ BROWN (10/12/2007)

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

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Roosevelt is "bursting at the seams" with an enrollment of 470-plus.

**GET WELL, MARILYN.** MARILYN TREUTER is recovering from a setback early last month. She was hospitalized for a short time, but is home with family reportedly up north. Hurry back, Marilyn. The club, in her honor, donated \$100 to the Friend of Youth scholarship fund.

**CONDOLENCES.** Our Club's condolences to Sally and BUZZ BROWN on the recent loss of Sally's mother, Doreen Burn. She passed away August 21, 2009. She was 81.

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## COMING EVENTS!

**SATURDAY, OCT. 24** – Our annual Pumpkin decorating. This is a blast, for the kids as well as for the adults watching how much fun the kids are having. It starts at 10 a.m. in Roosevelt School. Volunteers needed to handle the pumpkins – on Friday afternoon unloading and cleaning, and on Saturday, setting them all out for the kids.

**SUNDAY-WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22-25** – Poker Night at The Lodge, 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. We had minimal financial profit at this event in May and June, but prospects look very good for some major profit this time. Volunteers are needed to man the registration table. Plan on helping out.

**OPTIMIST CLUB  
OF KEEGO  
HARBOR**

*Friends of  
Youth  
for 2009*

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  
Carson James  
Shelton

In honor of  
Ed Simons

In memory of  
Ledge Tomlinson

In honor of  
Marilyn Treuter

Keego Harbor  
Jacket Club

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.*

# Transportation system in SE Michigan a mess

"Dysfunctional."

That's BUZZ BROWN's description of the public transportation system in southeast Michigan, primarily the metropolitan Detroit area.

In a power-point presentation at our Sept. 17 meeting – which was taped to be broadcast later on Channel 15 – Buzz said a transportation system for this part of the state is a "life style issue" for many people of all ages.

*Program  
Notes*

He laid out the current system in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb countries, which has a mixture of city and regional bus routes that don't mesh with each other.

For example, the SMART system down Woodward Avenue does not stop in the Bloomfield Hills area because that community has chosen to "opt out." Therefore, people have to catch the bus at the township limits and either walk to their destination or find other ways of transportation.

Buzz said that Keego Harbor could be a "hub" and serve as the "missing link" between Telegraph Road and West Bloomfield. Buses cruise by and around Keego/Sylvan Lake/Orchard Lake, but can't pick up passengers.

Buzz is in favor of a county-wide ballot to let the citizens vote on the matter.

Mayor SID RUBIN said that the Keego Harbor council is "open minded" about the proposal and is willing to "listen to any proposal that will benefit Keego Harbor."

Of the 25 largest metropolitan areas in the U. S., Detroit is the only one without a public transportation system, Buzz said.

"We need to be in a system."

## MARK TWAIN'S ANCIENT WISDOM

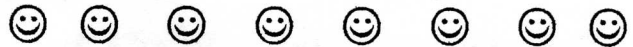
"If you don't read the newspaper you are uninformed; if you do read the newspaper you are misinformed."

"Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress.... But then I repeat myself."

"No man's life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session. "

"The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin."

"There is no distinctly Native American criminal class...save Congress."



FOR THOSE WHO LOVE

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF AMBIGUITY

1. One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.
2. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
3. Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?
4. If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
5. The main reason that Santa is so jolly is because he knows where all the bad girls live.
6. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?" She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
7. What if there were no hypothetical questions?
8. If a deaf person signs swear words, does his mother wash his hands with soap?
9. If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?
10. Is there another word for synonym?
11. Where do forest rangers go to "get away from it all?"
12. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
13. If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
14. Would a fly without wings be called a walk?
15. Why do they lock gas station bathrooms? Are they afraid someone will clean them?
16. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?
17. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
18. If the police arrest a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
19. What was the best thing before sliced bread?
20. One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.
21. How is it possible to have a civil war?
22. If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
23. If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
24. If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?
25. Whose cruel idea was it for the word lisp to have "s" in it?
26. Why are hemorrhoids called hemorrhoids instead of assteroids?
27. Why is it called tourist season if we can't shoot at them?
28. Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
29. If you spin an oriental person in a circle three times, do they become disoriented?

