

St. Paul Optimist Club Morning Mist

Winter Edition -- 2011-2012 Year Issue 2

January 2012

Optimist News

Meetings & Activities for the St. Paul Optimist Club

Our Winter Meetings:

- **Breakfast Meetings:** Jan 5th & Jan. 19th!
- **Board Meetings:** Jan 4th, Feb 2nd
- **MCOOC Meeting:** January 19th
- **First Fridays:** 5:30 pm @ Dixie's on Jan 6th, Feb 3rd, & March 2nd

Membership Updates/Status:

- St. Paul Optimist Club has roughly **50** Active Members
- Board approved a memorial for Jim Speckman
- Got an idea for a speaker for an upcoming meeting?
Please email Bill @ GolfFB@lycos.com

REMINDER: Optimist Bring a Friend Event!

Town & Country is closed in February, so our February meeting on **2/15 will be WEDNESDAY EVE**, and the goal is to bring guests to learn about Optimism and promote growing our membership in the club. More details and

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Optimist Views

Hello there Optimists! As we kick-off 2012, I wanted to recap our end of year events; we have a busy Q1--so make sure participation in Optimist events is on your New Year's Resolution list.

"GIVE MN" Fundraising Update:

Thank you for promoting or contributing to this annual fundraising event! We raised **\$4600** for the Club Foundation, which was then matched to give us another **\$4600**.

"Holiday Dinner" Update:

Attendance was close to **350** for community meals at The Neighborhood House Holiday Dinner. Our new menu was widely appreciated, and we saw less food waste. The Dorothy Day Center received the left over food. Food Shelf drive from my holiday party contributed **300** lbs of food to the food shelf.

Boy Scout Club Update:

The national Boy Scout Association has approved the Eagle Scout award for long time Troop Member Steve Lape. A ceremony for the award of his Eagle Scout will be February 12th.

As I end the newsletter update, our entire club thoughts go out to the members, family, and friends of our club that have experienced health situations over the holidays. Your friends in Optimism are thinking of you!

President - Linnea Solem
linneasolem@comcast.net

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timeframes to come.

Upcoming Youth Projects & Activities

Highlights of upcoming events & resource needs

Getting Involved In Projects:

We have two main Youth Projects in **Q1 2012** that need help from members to promote within the schools & parents.

- **Essay:** Submissions due **February 17th**, 2012
- **Oratorical:** Registrations due **February 24th**, 2012

Ways you can help: We need the following resources to help promote the events & manage the event

- 1) **Promotions:** Can you post our flyer at coffee shops? Can you email teachers? Does your company have a community bulletin board where you can post our flyer?
- 2) **Judges for Oratory:** Can you identify Non-Optimists who can be judges for the Oratory event?

NEW: Membership Speaker shows our community Linkage to Neighborhood House

The St. Paul Optimist Club has sponsored our "Community Membership" to have a member Riley Karbon of Neighborhood House involved in the club.

Interested in how to Get N-Volved?

Contact: Riley Karbon, [651-789-3626](tel:651-789-3626) or rkarbon@neighb.org

- Planning For Cadillac Dinner!!

We need to start planning for the May event.

- 1) **Silent Auction Co-Chairs** – Interested in helping coordinate the collection and organization of gift baskets/donations?
- 2) **Gift donation** – We need multiple club members to help get the word out into the community to get gifts donated for the raffle. Let us know if you are help out!

NEW: New Project Opportunity

- April is Optimist Internet Safety Month, and we have educational materials that can be used to share with community events.
- We are currently assessing option to partner with Neighborhood House who is kicking of a community computer literacy program with Comcast. Contact Linnea @ linneasolem@comcast.net if you are interesting in helping participate in this event or are willing to be the chair/lead for the event.

Sock & Hat/Mitten Drive! Brrr....

The Neighborhood House and students in the community still have needs for clean & warm socks but the need also can include Hats/Mittens. New immigrants to St. Paul area come from a jungle climate so even this weather is a Brrr.... The hats/mittens can be gently used. Bring to an Optimist Club Meeting or to the Holiday Dinner. For more information contact Faith @ clove002@umn.edu

December Update/Adopt-A-Family:

Our Club adopted a local St. Paul family, with 3 kids, who until the end of fall were homeless and living out of their car. The city has now placed the family at a local hotel. The Club contributed to tangible gifts of clothes, toys, books, and even gas cards/gift cards to help the family with the basics. Thank you Optimists for your caring support.

Fundraising Reminders!!

** Printer Cartridges are always needed for the Cancer Banks!



ST. PAUL OPTIMIST CLUB

2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOY SCOUT TROOP EAGLE AWARD COURT OF HONOR

DATE/PLACE: FEBRUARY 12TH, 2012, AT 2:00 PM AT THE BOY SCOUT NORTH STAR SCOUTING MUSEUM
Steve Lape from our Special Needs Boy Scout Troop as completed his project and will get his Eagle Award.

FEBRUARY EVENING MEETING EVENT – BRING A GUEST TO PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP A “NOW” EVENT

DATE/PLACE: WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15TH, AT JOSEPH’S
An Evening Optimist Event with appetizers & snacks. Bring a guest to have a social night to promote membership.

ESSAY CONTEST: “HOW MY POSITIVE OUTLOOK BENEFITS MY COMMUNITY”

DATE/PLACE: ESSAYS DUE BY FEBRUARY 17TH, 2012
Essay Contest distribution in progress for the local club contest.

SPEAKING CONTEST: ORATORICAL CONTEST “HOW MY OPTIMISM HELPS ME OVERCOME OBSTACLES”

DATE/PLACE: CLUB CONTEST IS MARCH 1ST, 2012 AT 5:30 PM
Oratorical speaking contest for Youth. Registrations due by February 24th.

SPEAKING CONTEST: DEAF & HARD OF HEARING EVENT “HOW MY OPTIMISM HELPS ME OVERCOME OBSTACLES”

DATE/PLACE: CLUB PRACTICE SESSION TBD BASED ON PARTICIPATION
CCDHH Contest pending for participation at the District Meeting in May

APRIL NATIONAL OI YOUTH MONTH – INTERNET SAFETY THEME

DATE/PLACE: TBD
Educational opportunity for community topics to promote internet safety with youth and parents

MAY DISTRICT MEETING

DATE/PLACE: MAY 4TH – 5TH 2012 IN WATERTOWN SD
District Meeting for Optimist Clubs in the DMM. District Youth Contests for Essay, Oratory, and CCDH

CADILLAC DINNER

DATE/PLACE: THURSDAY MAY 10TH, AT FT. SNELLING OPTIMIST CLUB
Our annual Fundraising event - mark your calendars and save the date!

GRAND OLD DAY PARADE

DATE/PLACE: SUNDAY JUNE 3RD, 2012.
Plan to come March in the Parade with fellow Optimist Club members. Let’s promote our club to the locals!

STATE FAIR BOOTH – EDUCATION & RECRUITMENT

DATE/PLACE : FIRST SATURDAY OF THE FAIR!
Optimist members from across the state will be manning the Optimist Booth in the education building.

St. Paul Optimist Club 2011 Event Highlights & Photos!



**Board Member Dan Orme
in Kuwait with Optimist
of the Year Award**



**Serving up Holiday
Dinner "Optimist" Style!**



**August 2011 Boy Scout
Troop Mini-Golf Event!**



**Group Shot at the Golf
Event!!**