

Optimist Club of Timonium Inc.

www.TimoniumOptimist.org

PRESIDENT: John Paull
SECRETARY: Sue Cavanaugh
TREASURER: Donna Bullen
V.P. OF YOUTH: Laura Hunt
V.P. OF MEMBERSHIP: Bob Hoffman
V.P. OF PROGRAMS: Gary Shultz
IMMED. PAST PRESIDENT: Ann Shultz
PAST PRESIDENT: Mickey Price
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Dolores Righter
BULLETIN EDITOR: Joanne Paull
PAST INTERN'L V.P.: Dick Price
PAST INTERN'L V.P.: Jim Yates



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
ONE YEAR: Skip Bullen
Karl Parks
Ann Siegmund
TWO YEAR: Pat Nardone
Jim Righter
Bill Snyder
ZONE 9 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR:
Carole Bankert
MD/SD DISTRICT GOVERNOR:
Sonny Neal

Club meetings: 1st Monday, 6:30 p.m., Timonium Holiday Inn • Board meetings: 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m., N.H. Yates & Co
Bulletin news due two days after club meetings; send to Joanne Paull at 410-252-0694 or joanne@jpaull.com

Bringing Out the Best In Kids for Fifty Years!

OPTI-MEMO: Feb. 23, 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 5, 2007 — Dinner meeting at Timonium Holiday Inn Select; 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 7, 2007 — Anniversary Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m., at the Righters' house—**note change of location!**
- Mar. 8, 2007 — Nominating Committee meeting, 7:00 p.m. at the Paulls' house
- Mar. 12, 2007 — Board meeting at N.H. Yates & Co., 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 17, 2007 — Bingo at Crowmwell Genesis; 2:00 p.m.
- Mar. 19, 2007 — Dinner meeting at Timonium Holiday Inn Select; 6:30 p.m. (Oratorical Contest)
- Mar. 19, 2007 — Hotel cutoff for MD/SD 3rd Quarter Conference in Ocean City (Carousel, April 20–22)

Our Last Meeting—Monday, February 19, 2007

President John Paull welcomed 34 people to our second dinner meeting in February. Gary Shultz gave the invocation and Bob Hoffman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pres. John reported on the success of the MD/SD District Conference in Annapolis this past weekend. [See separate article.] He also announced dates for upcoming club, zone and district events. VP of Membership Bob Hoffman reminded members that the next dinner meeting on March 5 would be our NOW meeting. There is still time to invite more guests, so get names to Bob ASAP. [See Membership article.] The Nominating Committee for 2007–2008 was formed and will meet in early March. [See Nominees article.] A revised club web site has been launched at the old web address—www.timoniumoptimist.org. [See Website article.]

The main business of the evening was the annual Essay Contest, which was chaired this year by Laura Hunt, VP of Youth. The theme set by Optimist International was “I Want to Make a Difference Because . . .” Laura thanked the judges, Suzanne Fisch, Janet LeDoyen and Julia Kearney, for performing a difficult job. They will be given a plant as a token of appreciation. The three winning essays were all excellent, and the judges indicated that scoring was very close. Two of the three top writers were present and drew numbers for the order to read their essays to the audience. Each one also introduced the family members who had come to the dinner with them. Laura read the essay of the third contestant, who could not attend because of a conflicting reception at the State House in Annapolis for student artists. After the presentation of the essays, the prizes were announced.

First place went to Alexis Blair, a junior at St. Paul School for Girls. She wrote about how her personal volunteer experiences, especially the chance to help Katrina victims during Christmas break, gave her encouragement to do more. She ended her essay with the confident statement, “I want to do make a difference because...I can!” Last year, Alexis placed second in our contest. The second place winner this year was Jennifer Oswald, a senior at the Carver Center, who was motivated to enter the contest after her visit to the club in November as an honoree for our Youth Appreciation Program. Third place went to Sonia Gupta, the eighth grade artist from Ridgely Middle School. The winners each received a medal, a certificate of appreciation and a desktop plaque of the Optimist Creed from

Pres. John. Alexis' essay will be submitted for judging at the District level. Chairman Laura Hunt and Sue Cavanaugh deserve our appreciation for organizing the entire club contest as well as the evening's program. At the end of the meeting, an energetic Spencer Blair, Alexis' 8-year-old brother, drew the ticket of Jennifer's father Alan Oswald to win \$24 in the 50/50 drawing. Sue Cavanaugh led the recitation of the Optimist Creed.

OUR NEXT MEETING—MAR. 5, 2007—NOW and MORE

This will be a very busy meeting that you won't want to miss! First of all, this is our official New Optimists Wanted meeting, and we want to make our NOW guests feel welcome. It is also a Student of the Month meeting, plus we'll have a presentation about HOBY, the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Conference that we support as Optimists. The Dulaney High School student our club sponsored last year will be present. You might want to wear green—we're having corned beef and cabbage for dinner. Reservations are due in to your call captain by Wed., Feb. 28.

MARCH IS OPTIMIST MEMBERSHIP MONTH—"JUST ASK"

For Optimists everywhere, March is designated as a special time to get the word out to the community that we need and welcome new people to help us in our work for kids. Our NOW dinner is part of that push for members, so plan NOW to invite someone you know to come learn about the Timonium Optimists on March 5! Get names and contact information to Bob Hoffman ASAP (410-668-4190 or bobotto@bellatlantic.net) so he can follow up.

Although we would especially like to see guests that night, remember that guests and new members are always welcome. The Oratorical Contest on March 19 is another great opportunity to exposure people to Optimism. If our club is going to stay healthy and grow, we have to make recruitment a priority year-round! Wearing a big, round JUST ASK button in March or any time is one good way to attract people's attention. If you need a button, JUST ASK Bob Hoffman for one at the next meeting.

NEW CLUB WEBSITE

Our revamped Timonium Optimist website has been launched. There is still some tweaking to be done, but it is functional now. Eventually it will be expanded with some photo galleries. The site is intended to be a tool for members—a source for what is upcoming and a record of what has been accomplished. The site hopefully will also promote the Timonium Optimists to the community and will serve as an introduction to the club for prospective members. PLEASE CHECK IT OUT AND SEND PEOPLE TO IT! A website is worthwhile only if it gets visitors. Add it to your Favorites list. A good way to get others there is to tell them about it in an email message and include this link to whisk them right to it: www.timoniumoptimist.org.

Contact Joanne Paull about errors to be corrected. We need photos of events (especially, bull roasts, can collection, raffle sales, flockings, parties, Christmas families and chain gang). The plan is to update the site regularly, but much of the information is timeless. A special thank you goes to Linda Schenk, John and Joanne Paull's daughter, who donated her professional time and talent for this major site redesign.

NOMINEES WANTED!

The Nominating Committee for 2007–2008—Dick & Mickey Price, Jim & Dolores Righter, Jim & Missy Yates and Mark Harris—will meet on Mar. 8 to draft a slate of officers and directors for next year. Elections will be conducted at the dinner meeting on May 7. If you are willing to hold an office or board position, please let one of the committee people know. By being on the Board, you serve the club in a significant way, increase your understanding of how the club works and deepen friendships with your fellow officers and directors. If you have never held a club leadership spot, know that there are lots of experienced and willing people to help you along!

MD/SD DISTRICT CONFERENCES

The Timonium Club had a great showing at the 2nd Quarter Conference in Annapolis, Feb. 16–18, with a total of 10 registered members plus two extras attending. Again we won the "Most in Attendance" award. Another honor for the club was the recognition of our *Opti-Memo* as the #1 bulletin for large clubs in the district for 2005-2006. President John re-presented the bulletin certificate to Editor Joanne Paull at the club's Feb. 19 meeting. The entire district continues to do well with can recycling. Since inception of the program, more than five tons of cans have been collected, resulting in \$11,000+ for the Childhood Cancer Campaign. Pres. John has forms available for the 3rd Quarter District Conference in Ocean City in April and the OI Convention in Montreal in July. Reservations for the Carousel in Ocean City (cutoff is technically Mar. 19) and the Ocean City Club Anniversary dinner on the Saturday of the conference (limit 180 people) are going quickly. Don't wait for the deadline to sign up!

SECOND ANNUAL TIMONIUM OPTIMIST GOLF TOURNAMENT

Okay, all you golfers and members who know golfers, flag Monday, July 16, 2007 as the day for our summer golf fundraiser. This time, we're teaming up with the Hereford Optimists to streamline a shared outing for both clubs under the chairmanship of Ken Bollinger. The event will again be held at Oakmont Green Golf Course in Hampstead, Md. We are looking for Tee Box sponsors, program advertisers, and of course, players. Please try to recruit for all three of those areas.

Ken has registration forms and invitation letters ready for you to pass out to your friends and contacts in the community. Contact Ken (410-357-5718 or kenfern@bcpl.net) for materials, to sign up, and to volunteer to help him pull off a day of fun for participants and profit for our programs. Registration and sponsorship forms can also be downloaded from www.timoniumoptimist.org. (Click on Fundraising / Golf Tournament.)

THOUGHT YOU WOULD WANT TO KNOW

- Skip Bullen has had some further complications and has undergone two more serious surgeries to stabilize his neck since we saw him at the dinner meeting on Feb. 5. At this writing, he remains in Intensive Care at Sinai. His doctors continue to evaluate his condition, and progress going forward looks like it will be slow and tedious. To begin with, Skip's head needs to be immobilized in a halo apparatus for a few months. He is on a breathing tube for the time being. Skip has a mighty spirit! Despite all he has been through, he remains alert, cooperative and determined. He and Donna ask for your prayers.
- The memorial service for former member John Coleman who died earlier this month will be held on Sat., Feb. 24 at 11:00 a.m. at the Timonium United Methodist Church. Lunch will follow the service.
- Congratulations to Bill Snyder, who has been selected as "Methodist Man of the Year." He will be honored at a ceremony at the Towson United Methodist Church on Monday evening, Feb. 26.
- Best wishes are extended to Jocelyn Price McCausland and David Sandy, who tied the knot on Feb. 10. After their wedding at Clynmalira United Methodist Church, a reception was held at Dick and Mickey Price's home. Joce, of course, is Dick's daughter. A very happy Mr. & Mrs. Sandy honored us with their presence at the dinner meeting on Feb. 19.
- The Lutherville-Timonium Recreation Council invites the public to its annual LTRC Dennis Yeagle Memorial Bull Roast on Sun., Mar. 11, 2007 from 1-5 p.m. at the Oregon Ridge Lodge. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the LTRC office at Ridgely Middle School. Call 410-887-7684, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., for more information.