

Optimist Club of Timonium Inc.

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. 9, 2007

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 10, 2007 — Zone 9 meeting; Woodlawn Community Center, 9:30 a.m.
Feb. 12, 2007 — Board meeting at N.H. Yates & Co., 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 14, 2007 — Distribution of Valentines at Cromwell Genesis, 11:00 a.m.; volunteers needed!
Feb. 16-18, 2007—MD/SD 2nd Quarter Conference (Double Tree Annapolis)
Feb. 17, 2007 — Bingo at Cromwell Genesis; 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 19, 2007 — Dinner meeting at Timonium Holiday Inn Select; 6:30 p.m. (Essay Contest)
Feb. 21, 2007 — Anniversary Committee meeting at Ann & Gary Shultz's; 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 5, 2007 — Dinner meeting at Timonium Holiday Inn Select; 6:30 p.m.
Mar. 12, 2007 — Board meeting at N.H. Yates & Co., 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 19, 2007 — Dinner meeting at Timonium Holiday Inn Select; 6:30 p.m. (Oratorical Contest)

Our Last Meeting—Monday, February 5, 2007

There were 39 people attending our Feb. 5th dinner meeting. Pres. John Paull began the evening by calling on Dick Price for the invocation and Ken Bollinger to lead the Pledge. As part of his prayer, Dick remembered former member John Coleman, who passed away on Feb. 3. Pres. John cited the following people with February birthdays: Linda Leizear, Mickey Price, Skip Sheeler, Sally Hottel, Fran Albright, Missy Yates and Diane Seeger. Since our usual song leader Missy was a birthday celebrant, Pres. John led the singing of "Happy Birthday." Everyone was glad to see Skip Bullen, Dick Moffett, Ann Shultz and Jim Yates in attendance following their various medical treatments in January. The most important announcement was VP of Membership Bob Hoffman's reminder that our NOW meeting will be held Mar. 5 and that he needs names and addresses from members of people to be sent invitations. [See separate article.] Don Imwold, Gary Shultz and Donna Bullen reported briefly on the financial success of our *Entertainment Book*, Ravens Playoff Raffle and Bull & Oyster Roast fundraisers, respectively. [More in separate article.] Pres. John presented Don Imwold with a Certificate of Appreciation for his chairmanship of the *Entertainment Book* project. Ken Bollinger announced that our second Timonium Optimist Golf Tournament will be held in July. [See separate article.] Dolores Righter collected the Valentine cards members brought for patients at Cromwell Genesis and announced that they would be distributed at the facility on Feb. 14 at 11 a.m. — volunteers are needed to help give them out. If you can help that morning, let Dolores know (410-557-0468). Dick Price collected loose change for our club Change Jar. Pres. John pointed out that it is nearly time for the Nominating Committee to convene, and he asked anyone willing to assume a Board position for next year to mention that to a current Board member. He also reminded members about upcoming meetings for the club, zone and district. [See calendar above.] Just before dinner, Pres. John read a feel-good thank-you note from our second Christmas family. The grateful grandmother quoted her two-year-old granddaughter as saying, "Oh, Grandma, Santa Claus found us!"

The Timonium Optimist Student of the Month for February is Meg Ondrusek, a third-grader at Warren Elementary School. She was introduced by Project Chairman Jim Righter. Meg is in Gifted & Talented Math and Reading and was a second grade student class representative last year. She has been a Brownie for three years and will bridge to Jr. Girl Scouts this spring. Meg loves to help in the cribbery at her church, and she collected over \$100 on her own for tsunami victims in Indonesia. Meg often eats lunch and plays at recess with the special education students. She won an essay contest about disability awareness by writing about her special relationship with an autistic student. Principal Susan Eisenhart praised Meg as outstanding for her compassionate concern for others. Meg was awarded an SOM plaque and \$50 savings bond from the club as well as an honor citation from club member and State Del. Susan Aumann. Mrs. Eisenhart was given an updated SOM plaque for the school. Meg's parents, Tony and Tammy Ondrusek were given a framed copy of the Optimist Creed. Meg was accompanied also by her younger sister Cate, grandmother Margaret Trone, great aunts Janet Scheerle and Carol Ondrusek, and her second grade teacher Ms. Susan Mariale.

The speaker for the evening was Ned Sayer, a cattleman from Churchville, MD and a member of the Maryland Grain Producers Association. He discussed the upside and downside of ethanol as a bio-renewable fuel. Ned saluted the efficiency of the food industry in the U.S., noting that our meeting date was "Food Checkout Day"—the 36th day of the year, when the average family has earned enough annual income to pay for food. Whereas the U.S. spends 10% of income on food, the rest of the world spends 25%–100%. The high production of corn in the U.S. makes that crop the leading source for the production of ethanol in this country. Over the next few years as the number of ethanol plants rises from 110 to 184, ethanol production will double and will increase the demand for corn, which unfortunately, will drive up prices for farmers who need feed. Maryland grows more barley and soybeans than corn, but these are not as efficient for ethanol production. Switchgrass has potential as an alternative crop to tobacco that could work for ethanol. Ethanol is important as a renewable energy source that

could reduce our dependence on foreign oil, but questions still remain as to what crops will best meet the need. Following the speaker presentation, the 50/50 drawing for \$22.50 was held, and Chuck Ortel won. The meeting closed with Karl Parks leading the recitation of the Optimist Creed.

OUR NEXT MEETING—FEBRUARY 19, 2007

At our second February dinner, we will hear the winning entries for this year's Essay Contest and meet the writers. The theme is "I Want to Make a Difference Because...." Please turn out for one of our primary youth-oriented events! The dinner entrée will be Salisbury steak, and dessert will be lemon layer cake. Let your call captain have your reservation no later than Wed., Feb. 14.

N-O-W ALERT—NEW OPTIMISTS WANTED—DINNER, MARCH 5, 2007

Set a personal goal to bring one new person to our NOW dinner meeting on Mar. 5. VP of Membership Bob Hoffman needs names and addresses from you ASAP so that he can send a letter of invitation to your guests. Of course, nothing is more welcoming than a personal invitation from you! Please let your friends know that the NOW meeting is a great way to learn why being a Timonium Optimist makes a difference.

Bob made a serious point at our meeting on Feb. 5. No matter how successful a club is in carrying out its programs and in promoting fellowship among existing members, it needs to grow in order to maintain its good health. New members expand the club's capacity to serve youth in the community. And new members are a vital source for new ideas. Bob has had the unfortunate experience of witnessing the demise of two former top-notch Optimist clubs in the metropolitan area, Putty Hill and Parkville. Those clubs made the mistake of not paying attention to keeping themselves growing. Let us not make the same mistake as Timonium Optimists! Spread the word about all we do in the community. Let potential members know that we welcome them to join us.

FUNDRAISING REPORTS

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK SALES

Chairman Don Imwold reports that the club sold a total of 107 books this year, compared to 101 books for 2006. For exceeding last year's sales, we get a bonus of \$93.75. Total profit for the project is \$786. Special thanks go to Chuck Bollinger (Ken's son who sold 21), new member Dave Sandy (10), Don Imwold (9) and Bill Snyder (9). The number of people who sold at least one book was 29. The club owes Don appreciation for organizing this fundraiser every year. Thanks to his efforts, we have had thousands of dollars more to put toward projects for kids!

RAVENS PLAYOFF RAFFLE

The drawing for the two tickets to the Ravens' playoff game on January 13 was held at the Timonium Optimist Board meeting on January 8. The winning ticket was #44, held by Bill Glick. The ticket was sold to him by Optimist member Peter Frey. Unfortunately, a second drawing was not necessary since the Ravens did not move on in the playoffs. The unexpected opportunity to conduct this raffle resulted in a windfall for our foundation budget of just over \$1,100. Gary Shultz did an excellent job in pulling plans together for the raffle on very short notice.

BULL & OYSTER ROAST

The January 20th event was our best roast yet! There were 1,010 people enjoying themselves at the extensive buffet, gaming activities and silent auction, and on the dance floor. Timonium sold 306 tickets and thus will receive 30% of the profits being shared among the four participating clubs (Timonium, Cockeysville, Northwest and Woodlawn). Total profits were \$14,481. Our portion this year amounts to about \$4,400. Last year, the Timonium Club netted \$2,995.

If you sold tickets and/or worked at the roast this year, give yourself a big pat on the back. Our club contributed a lot of manpower to the success of the roast. Outstanding among our volunteers were Donna Bullen, who functioned as treasurer for the entire roast, and Gary Shultz, who was our official club representative to the Bull & Oyster Roast Committee. Ann Shultz and John Paull also were involved in committee planning. The chairman of the roast committee was Ed Crawley from Woodlawn. Ed and Donna have agreed to reprise their roles next year. FYI, mark your calendar for JANUARY 19, 2008 for next year's roast.

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. Those who receive this issue by email will find files of the golf outing materials attached.

THOUGHT YOU WOULD WANT TO KNOW

- Former member John Coleman lost his bout with cancer on Sat., Feb. 3, 2007. He died at the Gilchrist Center following a recurrence of his disease a few weeks ago. A memorial service is being planned for Feb. 24 at the Timonium United Methodist Church. We'll announce details as soon as we know them. For those who would like to contact his wife Sandra, also a former member, the address is: 2209 Stryker Court, Timonium, MD 21093.

- Remember Donna Bullen's request in December to bring in those nice 2007 calendars we all get but don't really need? She reports that the club collected 155 calendars that were donated to the Baltimore International Seafarers' Center near Ft. Mc Henry for visiting seamen to pick up and use. Seamen may spend 9-12 months on board their vessels, often working 6 to 7 days a week while missing out on birthdays and holidays with their family. Our cheerful calendars help them look forward to going home. What a nice way to recycle and do someone a kindness!