



NO SNOOZE NEWS



BREAKFAST OPTIMIST CLUB OF KALAMAZOO

Volume 21, Issue 4
January 2012

BOCK—Promising to Make a Difference



President's Corner

Hello Everyone,

Promising to Make a Difference in 2012. HAPPY NEW YEAR! What a great time of the year – summer and fall are over and winter is in full swing, and we are one quarter of the way through the new Optimist year. The first quarter went by so quickly and it was great to welcome into our membership three new members, **Chris Lytle, Eric Stewart and Ron Graves**. We did lose three of our FOOs (Friends of Optimists) but I'm very optimistic that we will gain three new members during the second quarter to help us to continue making a difference in the lives of children in the Kalamazoo area. Resolve to make this year your best year as a BOCK member. Thank you for all you do for the club, because everything you do for BOCK will touch the lives of the children in our area.

Promising to Make a Difference by providing a Christmas for the Let's Talk About It Girls' Home in Kalamazoo. BOCK supplied about 115 items for this home and for the girls. This is a state licensed open facility in Kalamazoo County. It is a community-based treatment agency for abused, neglected and delinquent teenage girls, ages 13-17. The length of stay in the facility is 9-12 months. Treatment is customized to meet the unique needs of individual teens and families. Families are encouraged to actively participate in treatment and other program activities. Thank you, BOCK, for your generous donations of gifts for the girls and the home. The gifts ranged from sheets, comforters, DVD player, jewelry, blouses, sweaters, blankets, camera, pajamas, laundry supplies, hair supplies, photo books and albums, scarves, mittens, hats, toys, baby clothes, puzzles, keyboard, etc. etc.!!



Promising to Make a Difference in our holiday fundraising season. The funds from this fundraiser were for the Administrative Fund. Thanks to all of you who sold or bought candles, Christmas wreaths/trees, soaps, cookbooks, etc. during November and December. The proceeds go to our Administrative Fund – helps to keep our dues down. A BIG thank-you to **Lyn Lenox** for chairing the holiday fundraising event. We also had a Holiday Basket Raffle and **Dee Ann Dopp** was the winner. We raised \$100 in the ticket sales for the Administrative Fund. Thank you to **Laurie Jefsen** and **KRESA** for providing the Raffle basket.

Yours in Optimism,
Wilma VanLoo, BOCK Club President



JANUARY SPEAKERS AND GREETERS

- January 5 Don Wiersma—Superbooks
Greeter: Jan Oord
- January 12 Willo Radgens—Ministry with Community
Greeter: Dee Ann Dopp
- January 19 Mary Peterson—Audiology
Greeter: Helen Horn
- January 26 Julie Howes—OI Foundation
Greeter: Kristi Carambula

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



- 8 Eric Stewart
- 12 Jim Murphy
- 18 Laurie Jefsen
- 19 Mary Memmott
- 20 Pat Haley
- 20 Jeanette Meyer
- 30 Ruth Rowe

WEEKLY MEETINGS

Thursdays @ 7:30 A.M.
Colonial Kitchen
7617 S Westnedge, Portage

BOCK WEBSITE

www.bockzoo.org



2011-2012

Board of Directors

- President **Wilma VanLoo**
- President-Elect **Nicole Ingersoll**
- Vice President **Linda Ingersoll**
- Secretary-Treasurer **Chris Shults**
- Past President **Jeanette Meyer**
- Finance **Laurie Jefsen**
- Membership **Carmen Jonaitis**
- Youth Activities **Mary Memmott**
- Fellowship **Val Lippincott**
- Community Service **Helen Horn**
- Programs & Publicity **Cathy Balik**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12TH
5:30 PM
WILMA VANLOO'S HOUSE

JANUARY BOOK CLUB

NO BOOK CLUB

2012 BOOK THEMES—THINGS THAT MAKE YOU HAPPY

FEBRUARY BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Panera Bread, West Main

5:30 PM

The book is The Double Comfort Safari Club by Alexander McCall Smith



More Info on Our Newest Members...



Eric Stewart was inducted on December 15 and Karen Carlisle is his sponsor. Eric is an administrator at KRESA and has been there for 4 years. He lives in Vicksburg and is engaged to Alyssa - congratulations! Eric is interested in Community Service, Youth Activities, Publicity and Fellowship. He loves sports, traveling and outdoor activities.

We gave a brief intro about Ron Graves in the December newsletter but we thought we would share a little bit more. Ron compiled and edited a book of 250 optimist quotes. He writes a monthly motivational newsletter entitled "Have an Optimistic Day" and has hosted his own Internet talk show called "Achieving the Extraordinary." He loves to do yard work and is interested in New Club Building and Membership. Welcome to BOCK, Ron!



SUPER BOOK SALES HAVE STARTED!

As most of you know, we are in the Super Book season! Ralph Meyer is our chair person for this fundraiser. We will continue to sell Super Books through mid-April. The proceeds from this fundraiser will go to our Youth Fund.

Cost is: \$39 per book (same as in the past several years), \$1.00 per supplement (only one per book) - Supplements are for Allegan and Van Buren counties.

There are many (100s) coupons in this Super Book and several new additions. As in the past, a lot of the coupons are "buy one, get one free" - dinners, lunches, dry cleaning, golf, bowling, movie tickets, oil changes, Nature Center, Gilmore Car Museum, Kalamazoo Symphony, etc. You will notice that on the cover of the book it has 2012-2013 (expires March 1, 2013), BUT most of them can be used NOW.

Our goal is to sell 100+ books. At the level of 100-149, the commission is \$9.50 per book - all of this commission goes to our youth program. We encourage you to sell as many as possible and the past years show that 100-149 is realistic for BOCK. Ralph will have the books at all of our Thursday morning meetings and if you can't be there, Ralph's email address is mgrumpyants29@aol.com. By the way, he isn't "grumpy." I'm sure he would love to take your order. *When paying for the books, please make your check payable to BOCK.*



Second Quarter District Conference - February 10-11, 2012 - Lexington Inn, Lansing. This meeting will feature the annual awards banquet on Saturday evening, where Immediate Distinguished and Outstanding Past Governor Jan Oord will be presenting awards for Club achievements during the 2010-2011 Optimist year. They will also have roundtable discussions as well as breakouts to help everyone learn and exchange ideas. For Club Presidents, there will be a special breakout session with Governor Ray Finocchio, to stimulate discussion about what the Clubs are doing, and exchange ideas among Club Presidents related to best practices. They will also be having a Certified International Trainer, to discuss techniques for member retention. There will be a special workshop on Friday afternoon on "How to plan a N.O.W. (New Optimists Welcome) meeting". These are sessions you won't want to miss!!

Zone 6 Breakfast Meeting THIS Saturday, January 7th!

Terry Eisen, Zone 6 Lt. Governor, will be hosting his first Zone Meeting THIS Saturday, January 7th, 9:00 a.m. at Moonraker restaurant in Battle Creek. Zone 6 includes BOCK, Battle Creek Club, Pennfield Club, Harper Creek Club and the Jackson Club. All members and prospective members are invited. Special guest will be the Michigan District Governor, Ray Finocchio. Please RSVP to Wilma VanLoo if you are attending, dwwanloo@sbcglobal.net

Essay Contest: How My Positive Outlook Benefits My Community



BOCK will again be sponsoring the Optimist International Essay Contest for youth in the surrounding Kalamazoo area. The topic is "How My Positive Outlook Benefits My Community." This Essay Contest is designed to give young people the

opportunity to develop their own views about a central idea and expand their opinions regarding the world in which they live. In addition to increasing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship of up to \$2500!

The deadline for participants to submit an essay is February 3, 2012. Mindy Miller is organizing this activity for our club. Please contact her at mmiller@kresa.org if you would like to help judge the essays. The three top winners will be recognized at our BOCK meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2012. They will be asked to read their essay to our group at this meeting.



Dime-a-Day PLUS... Donate to the OI Foundation!

The Optimist International Foundation is celebrating its 40th anniversary! In honor of that celebration, the yearly Dime-A-Day program has been transformed! By contributing a Dime-A-Day PLUS (\$40), we can go just that little bit extra to make a difference in the lives of children! Dime-a-Day forms will be available at each meeting. You will receive a pin (pictured above) for your donation. Donations to the OI Foundation are tax deductible. For more information, please contact our BOCK OI Foundation Representative, Julie Howes, at (269) 665-4709 or jhowes217@aol.com

Don't forget to bring in your loose change to the weekly meetings to throw in our LOOSE CHANGE Bucket, every bit helps. As a Club our goal is to raise \$400 in unrestricted funds for the Foundation. We will receive a banner patch for our donation.



94th International Convention July 12 - 14, 2012

The 94th Annual Optimist International Convention takes place July 12-14, 2012, located in Milwaukee, WI. A tentative agenda has been posted on the Optimist International website. It is full of breakout sessions, training sessions, fellowship events, and more. You can meet and network with Optimists from all over the world. There is also evening activities and plenty of site-seeing to do. If you need a vacation in the summer months and not sure where to go, check out beautiful Milwaukee with fellow Optimists.

BOCK Euchre Club

2:45 PM—Sunday, January 8th

Brewster's Restaurant in Portage

All are welcome!

You should have some knowledge of
the game though!



SAVE THE DATE

BOCK ANNUAL CCC

GOLF OUTING

SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2012

OLDE MILL GOLF CLUB

SCHOOLCRAFT, MI

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself ~

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

*By providing hope and positive vision,
Optimists bring out the best in kids.*

-Optimist Mission Statement