



THE ORACLE

Optimist Club of Plant City
P.O. Box 1755, Plant City FL 33564-1755

Early March, 2007



NEXT MEETING IS MONDAY MARCH 12

Remember, our next meeting will be postponed due to the Strawberry Festival Grand Parade holiday. We will meet on Monday March 12 at 7:00pm at ABC Pizza to make plans for the City-Wide Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday April 7) and follow-up on the college scholarship program. Now that the youth basketball season is over, we look forward to a large crowd!

ORATORICAL CONTESTANTS SPEAK ON THEIR BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Seven youths participated in the annual Oratorical Contest on February 19, presenting their speeches on the subject "My Biggest Challenge Is...". Over 50 spectators listened carefully to the speeches and while the judges were tallying their scores, everyone enjoyed strawberry shortcake. Thanks to Dave and Doris Robbins and their lovely daughter/assistant Susan for the tireless work of setting up and running the event. Special thanks to Rick Norman, David James and Jim Lane from the Plant City Toastmasters for coming out and judging the competition. Congratulations to:

- Girls: 1st Place: Amanda Williamson, 2nd Place: Sara Beth Newsome, 3rd Place: Erika Kolakowski.
- Boys: 1st Place: Trevor Persaud, 2nd Place: Bryars Byrd, 3rd Place: Taylor Frost, 4th Place: John Kenney.

First place finishers advance to the Zone Competition at Paradise Lakes in Mulberry on Thursday evening, March 15. Mark the date and plan to go and support our first place finishers.

WANTED: LAPTOP COMPUTER FOR CLUB RECORDS

We are hoping that some of you business folks out there may have a laptop lying around your office or home that could be donated to the Club for maintaining our financial and membership records. It does not need a lot of bells and whistles. Anything with Windows 95 or newer would work. Optimist International has a software program to maintain the club accounting and membership records and by placing it on a laptop, it could be easily housed at the Secretary/Treasurer's home and passed down to the next office holder. Please contact Prez Jeff at arnoldjef@gmail.com or 813-707-8373.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR IS ANNOUNCED

Our club was well represented at the annual "Outstanding Citizen Of The Year" luncheon at the Ramada Inn Plantation House on Wednesday, February 28. Prez Jeff A, 1st VP Jack H, 2nd VP Jeb H, Board Member Walt A as well as Jeff O, Jim R and Jim S. were on hand to congratulate Jack Gibbs, Sr. as the 2007 award winner.

EASTER EGG HUNT COMING UP SOON!

Reserve the morning of Saturday April 7 to help out at the city's annual Easter Egg Hunt. We will need hot dog grillers (8:30am) and others to man the assembly line and serving line (9:00am to noon). Remember to bring large coolers to store the assembled dogs in! Over 800 youths will search for over 10,000 plastic filled Easter eggs. Other activities such as face painting, inflatables, rock wall and a pre-hunt stage show fill out the morning. Free hot dogs and drinks for all the youths. Contact event chairman Mike Williamson (michaellwilliamson@gmail.com or 813-757-6570) to volunteer!

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- √ Monday, March 12 (**not** March 5 due to Festival Parade Day) - meeting at ABC Pizza, 7:00pm. Agenda: planning for Easter Egg Hunt (April 7) and Respect For Law (May 7), follow-up on scholarships.
- √ No meeting in late March due to Spring Break.
- √ Monday, April 2 - meeting at ABC Pizza, 7:00pm. Agenda: Easter Egg Hunt, Respect For Law, scholarships.
- √ Saturday, April 7 - Easter Egg Hunt: 8:30 grill time, 9:00 assembly line, 10:00 event start, 10:30-11:30 serving line.
- √ Monday, April 16 - Steak Night, 7:00pm grill time, Rec & Parks admin patio. Agenda: Respect For Law, scholarships.
- √ Monday, May 7 - Respect For Law banquet, 7:00pm, Recreation & Parks admin conference room.

2006-2007 OFFICERS

Jeff Arnold, President (813-707-8373)
Jack Holland, 1st Vice President (813-752-2057)
Jeb Hicks, 2nd Vice President (813-754-8804)
Paul Woods, Secretary/Treasurer (813-752-0356)
Walt Arnold, Sergeant at Arms (813-752-1602)



BOARD MEMBERS

Pat Stottlemeyer, Past President
2006-2008:
Dave Robbins - Walt Arnold - Steve Kennedy
2006-2007:
Bernie Reynolds - Carl Hinson - Cal Calhoun

ORATORICAL CONTEST FEBRUARY 19, 2007

