



THE ORACLE

Optimist Club of Plant City
PO Box 1755, Plant City FL 33564-1755
www.plantcityoptimistclub.org

Early January, 2008



HOLIDAYS ARE OVER, IT'S BACK TO WORK—NEXT MEETING MONDAY JANUARY 7

We hope you had a very blessed and safe holiday season and now it's time to get back to work! Our next meeting is Monday, January 7 at 6:30pm at First Choice BBQ, 712 South Collins Street (formerly Porter's Restaurant). This is a very busy meeting as we have a lot of things to discuss, such as tree lot wrap-up, Steppin' Stone party wrap-up, Tri-Star Basketball, Oratorical Contest and Citizen of the Year. Those of you involved with youth basketball games that night are excused but everyone else should attend - we need your help! Let's kick off the new year with a big meeting crowd!

STEPPIN' STONE CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS GREAT

What a great time everyone had at the Steppin' Stone Christmas Party on December 17. Coordinator Walt Arnold did a wonderful job making sure all gifts were secured and that enough food was available. At least 22 members attended with their family to be a part of the food, fun and fellowship. Thank you for everyone's help with gifts and food for the event. Photos are on the following pages of this Oracle.

TREE LOT A HUGE SUCCESS THIS YEAR

Kudos to everyone that helped with the tree lot this year as it was our biggest success ever. Only a handful of the 850 trees were remaining after we broke down the lot and stored it away for another year. Committee Chairman Dave Robbins says we even exceeded his "optimistic" goal for sales, and much of that is due to your help at the lot!

BASKETBALL TRI-STAR COMPETITION JANUARY 26

Help is needed to conduct the Basketball Tri-Star Skills Competition on Saturday, January 26 at 2:00pm in the Tomlin Middle School gym. We need 10-12 members on site to help set up and grade the event. Chairman Mike Palestrini (mepal68@aol.com or 813-754-7986) is looking for you to step up and volunteer. This is a very popular event that we do in conjunction with the youth basketball program, so give up a couple hours on January 26 to help!

ORATORICAL CONTEST FEBRUARY 18

Plans are under way for the Oratorical Contest to be held on Monday, February 18 at the Rec & Parks administration building, 1904 South Park Road. Chairman Dave Robbins (drobbins11@tampabay.rr.com or 813-754-2257), along with his able-bodied assistant Doris, are working on the details and we will announce them in the next Oracle.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR LUNCHEON FEBRUARY 20

More details in the next Oracle, but we will again be involved with the Citizen of the Year luncheon along with the other service clubs in the City on Wednesday, February 20, 11:30am at the Red Rose Ballroom. We will need some attendees at our table, so check your calendar for your availability when we ask at the next meeting January 7.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- ✓ **Monday, January 7** at First Choice BBQ, 712 S Collins St (formerly Porters Restaurant), 6:30pm, Regular meeting, Agenda: tree lot wrap-up, Steppin' Stone wrap-up, Oratorical Contest, Tri-Star Basketball, Citizen of the Year.
- ✓ **Monday, January 21** at Rec & Parks patio, 6:30pm, Steak Night meeting. Agenda: Oratorical Contest, Tri-Star Basketball, Citizen of the Year, Scholarships, Easter Egg Hunt, Respect For Law.
- ✓ **Saturday, January 26** at Tomlin Middle School, 1:30p set-up, 2:00p event, Basketball Tri-Star Competition.
- ✓ **Monday, February 4** site to be announced, 6:30p, regular meeting, Agenda: Oratorical Contest, Citizen of the Year, Scholarships, Easter Egg Hunt, Respect For Law.

2007-2008 OFFICERS

Jack Holland, President (813-752-2057)
Jeb Hicks, 1st Vice President (813-754-8804)
Mike Williamson, 2nd Vice President (813-757-6570)
Paul Woods, Secretary/Treasurer (813-752-0356)
Walt Arnold, Sergeant at Arms (813-752-1602)



2007-2008 BOARD MEMBERS

Jeff Arnold, Past President
2007-2009:
Scott Lawson - Jeff Ogden - Pat Stottlemeyer
2007-2008:
Walt Arnold - Dave Robbins - Steve Kennedy

THE END OF A BUSY TREE SALES SEASON

Although the end of the season was upon us, there were no tears shed as the tree lot shelter was taken apart and stored away until next year. Even as the poles came down, patrons stopped by and bought some of the few remaining trees we had.



STEPPIN' STONE CHRISTMAS PARTY PHOTOS

Over half of our members attended with family to share the spirit of the season. More photos on the next page...



MORE STEPPIN' STONE CHRISTMAS PARTY PHOTOS

