

# JACKSONVILLE JOTTINGS



Published by the Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 442 Phoenix, MD 21131

Chartered September 19, 1984 — Proud to be an Honor Club for Six Year Consecutive Years, 2000 – 2005

[www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org)

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June 15, 2006

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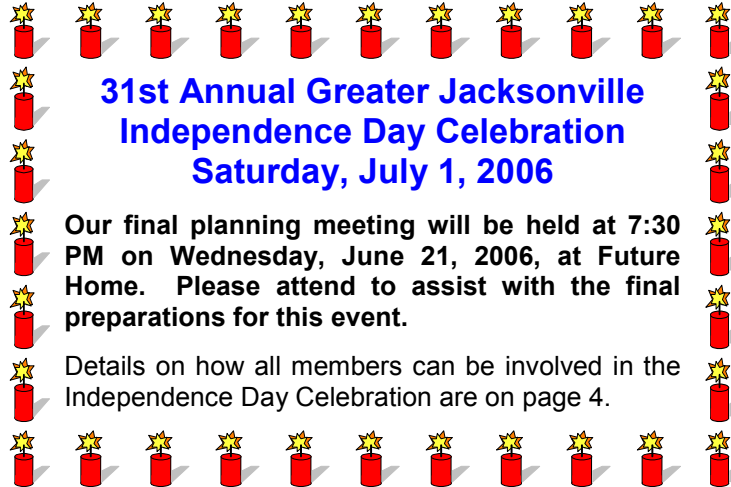
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### CLUB/BOARD MEETINGS

First Wed. of Each Month 7:30 PM at FUTURE HOME 12900 Jarrettsville Pike 410-666-0086

Editor

Dennis Lane  
410-592-2574



## 31st Annual Greater Jacksonville Independence Day Celebration Saturday, July 1, 2006

Our final planning meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, June 21, 2006, at Future Home. Please attend to assist with the final preparations for this event.

Details on how all members can be involved in the Independence Day Celebration are on page 4.



Why have Kevin Alban (l.) and Tom McGrath (r. in blue) and several other GJOC members been hanging out in front of Safeway lately? See story on page three.



Where is Adam Drescher going with this truckload of bags? See CCC story on page two.

What have Bob & Dink Rigger and Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club President Carol been up to lately? See Children's House at Johns Hopkins story on page three.



Find out what Dennis Lane (far left) and Carol Applegate and Jim Hubbard (standing right) did on Memorial Day weekend. Story on page three.



## CALENDAR

Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
June 16-18, 2006

Donation Ticket Sales at Safeway

Sunday, June 18, 2006  
Happy Father's Day!

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Independence Day Celebration  
Planning Meeting  
7:30 PM at Future Home

Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
June 23-25, 2006

Donation Ticket Sales at Safeway

Friday, June 30, 2006

Donation Ticket Sales at Safeway

Saturday, July 1, 2006

31st Annual Greater Jacksonville  
Independence Day Celebration

Wed.-Sat., July 5-8, 2006

Optimist International Convention  
Opryland Hotel in Nashville

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Club/Board Meeting  
7:30 PM at Future Home

Wednesday, August 9, 2006

Club/Board Meeting  
7:30 PM at Future Home

Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
August 18-20, 2006

Fourth Quarter District Board  
Meeting/Conference & Convention  
at the Plaza Hotel in Hagerstown,  
Maryland

Wednesday, August 23, 2006

2006-2007 Planning Meeting

Visit our Club's web site, [www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org), for updated information on our Club's Activities.



## 2006 Oratorical Contest



Pictured (L.R.)—Carol Porcher, GJOC External Vice President and our Oratorical Contest Participants—Stephen Deveaney, Pierce Sassler, Nicholas Hall, Gillian Vincent, Harriet Feliz, Diana Parks, Chloe Adler, Morgan League, Caterina Marzella, and Katherine Machen.

Our Club's Oratorical Contest, chaired by Mary Lu Hartley, was held at on Thursday, March 23, 2006, in the auditorium at Stella Maris. The students pictured above with Carol Porcher, GJOC External Vice President, presented interesting speeches on the topic, **"My Future is Bright Because . . ."**

The boys all from Our Lady of Grace School placed as follows: 1st Place, Steven Deveaney, 2nd Place, Pierce Sassler, and Third Place, Nicholas Hall.

Gillian Vincent from Our Lady of Grace School, placed first in the girls contest, Diana Parks, also from Our Lady of Grace, was second, and Harriet Feliz, from St. James Academy was third.

Steven and Gillian represented our Club in the Zone 9 Oratorical Contest on Thursday, April 6, 2006. Gillian placed third in the Zone competition.

We thank all of the students for participating in the contest and thank their teachers for working with them on their speeches, and their families for supporting and encouraging them throughout the preparation for the contest. A thank you also goes out to Tom Gilmore, Past President of the original Jacksonville Optimist Club for making arrangements for the use of the auditorium at Stella Maris.

Plans are already underway for the 2007 Oratorical Contest which is open to all youth under the age of 16 as of December 31, 2007. **The topic for the 2007 contest is "My Biggest Challenge Is . . ." We look forward to having some of this year's participants return in 2007.**

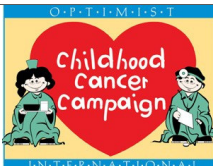


## 2006 Essay Contest



We received five essays on the topic, **"I Am Unique Because . . ."** **Ariel Zhao, from Fallson High School**, in the picture with Carol Applegate, Essay Contest Chair (l.) and Carol Porcher, GJOC External Vice President (c.) placed first in our Club's Contest and read her essay at our meeting on March 23. Ariel's essay was then entered in the Maryland South Delaware District Contest which was won by a student representing the Severna Park Optimist Club.

Plans are also underway for the 2007 Essay Contest which is all to all youth under the age of 19 as of December 31, 2006. **The topic for the 2006 contest is "I Want to Make a Difference because . . ."**



## GJOC Aluminum Cans and Tabs Add Up to Big Dollars for The Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign!

Aluminum cans and tabs are a major source of revenue for the Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign in the Maryland South Delaware District of Optimist International. Since April 2004, Optimists in our District have recycled over 7,000 pounds of cans and tabs raising over \$8,000 for the Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign. Over 900 pounds of those cans and pull tabs were collected by the Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club.

**Adam Drescher and a pickup truck load of bags of cans ready to be recycled is shown on page one. There were 330 pound of cans in those bags.** They were collected for us at Fallston High School in a project chaired by Ariel Zhao, a 2005 HOBY Ambassador and winner of our Club's 2006 Essay Contest. Ariel learned about the Optimist CCC recycling project at the 2005 HOBY seminar where she met Dennis Lane, our Club's CCC Chair, and followed up with the students and community collecting cans during the month of April 2006. Their cans generated a donation of \$429 for the CCC. Thank you Ariel and Fallston High school students, staff, and community.

We receive cans and tabs from the Red Cross Blood Donor Center in Lutherville every week and several of our members collect cans and tabs and drop them off at our meetings.

**WE NEED YOUR CANS!** Please save your cans to help the kids and please ask others to save cans for you. You can bring the cans to any Optimist meeting or drop them off at Dennis Lane's house at 14317 Dairydale Ct. in Baldwin. If you have a large quantity, please contact [Dennis Lane](mailto:Dennis Lane) at 410-592-2574 or 410-592-7067 to arrange a pickup date and time. **Every can and tab counts!** Thank you for your support!

**Greater Jacksonville Independence Day Celebration — Saturday, July 1, 2006**

**Together Everyone Achieves More!**



Visit our Club's web site, [www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org), for updated information on our Club's Activities.



### Tents for Boy Scouts

Fred Figlewski, GJOC Treasurer, presented a \$420 check to be used to purchase tents to Boy Scout Troop 444 at our meeting on March 23.



### Optimists Visit the New Children's House at St. Casimir

Past Maryland South Delaware District Governors, Don Bosserman (l.) and Dennis Lane (r.), were among the Optimists who visited the Believe in Tomorrow Children's House at St. Casimir on May 10. The house, located in a former convent, provides long term housing for the families of children being treated at Johns Hopkins.

Greater Jacksonville Optimist member, Chad Casserly, also visited the house and noted that the Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club is of one nine Clubs in the MDSD District of Optimist International that donated funds to the Maryland/South Delaware District Childhood Cancer Campaign Foundation specifically for the purchase the kitchen cooking and serving utensils for the house.

### A Family Supper is Served at the Children's House at Johns Hopkins



Bob & Dink Rigger, Kevin Alban, Dennis Lane, Theresa (Fran and Tom Betty's daughter), and President Carol Dunstan served a family supper to the families staying at the Believe in Tomorrow Children's House at Johns Hopkins on Tuesday, June 13, 2006.

The meal, which was prepared ahead of time, included meat loaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed garden salad, rolls and butters, brownies with ice cream, and iced tea. The families, who are staying in the house while their children are being treated at Johns Hopkins, enjoyed having a home cooked meal and the opportunity to relax after a long day at the hospital. Each family was given a copy of our Club's brochure which includes the Optimist Creed.

### Getting the Word Out and Raising the Needed Funds

GJOC Optimists have been spending their time on June weekends in front of Safeway in the Manor Shopping Center talking to customers about the Jacksonville Independence Day Celebration and requesting donations to support the Celebration. The response of the people has been very good and many customers said they look forward to the celebration every year and thanked us for doing it.

### Children's Library at Villa Maria

Our next visit to the Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club sponsored Children's Library at Villa Maria will be scheduled later in the summer after the Summer School program at Villa Maria is completed.



### Greater Jacksonville Optimists Attend HOBY Seminar

The GJOC was represented at the 2006 HOBY Maryland Leadership Seminar held at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, on Memorial Day weekend by Carol Applegate who was the Seminar Chair and Dennis Lane who served as a facilitator of a group of nine students throughout the weekend. Jim Hubbard, Past Optimist International President also attended and served on a panel.

Over 170 high school sophomores attended the seminar at which they participated in leadership labs, heard keynote speakers, attended a career luncheon and a hunger lunch, heard panel discussions followed by small group rap sessions, participated in a service project on campus, and even had a talent show and dance.

Carol, Dennis, and Jim believe that participation in the HOBY seminar is a great example of "Optimists Bringing Out the Best in Kids".

### GJOC Optimist Larry Daniels to Perform in The Music Man

We have learned that our member, Larry Daniels, is the bass in the barbershop quartet in "The Music Man" which is being presented at the Cockpit in Court on the CCBC-Essex campus located at 7201 Rossville Boulevard, Baltimore, Maryland 21237.

The show runs July 21, 2006 through August 6, 2006. Performances are on at 8:00 PM on Friday and Saturday evenings and at 3:00 PM on Sundays. There will be a special Thursday night performance August 3, 2006 at 8:00 PM.

Reservations can be made by calling the box office at 410-780-6369 (Wednesdays through Fridays). Maybe we can get a group of Optimist, families, and guests together to attend one of the performances. It sounds like fun!

**Share your Optimism with others.  
Invite a guest to a GJOC activity!**

**Together Everyone Achieves More!**



## 31st Annual Jacksonville Independence Day Celebration—Saturday, July 1, 2006

The Annual Jacksonville Independence Day Celebration, our club's largest project for the families and youth of the Greater Jacksonville area, will be held on **Saturday, July 1, 2006**. All members are invited and encouraged to get involved with this fun patriotic community activity. Opportunities for involvement are listed below. Please contact Chairperson Fred Figlewski at 410-785-1785 or [ffiglewski@comcast.net](mailto:ffiglewski@comcast.net) to volunteer. You'll be glad you did!

### 1. Fundraising—Donation Tickets

**Sell donation tickets in front of the Safeway store raise funds to pay for the celebration**

**Tom McGrath** is chairing the ticket sales and is doing the scheduling. Our planned sales dates are:

**Friday evenings in June (2, 9, 16, 23, & 30)**  
4:00 PM—8:00 PM.

**Saturdays in June (3, 10, 17, & 24)**  
9:00 AM-3:00 PM

**Sundays in June (4, 11, 18, & 25)**  
9:00 AM—3:00 PM

**Saturday, July 1—11:00 AM—3:00 PM**

We need to have two people present to sell donation tickets and promote the celebration at all of the times above. **Please contact [Tom McGrath at 410-592-9202](mailto:Tom.McGrath@jacksonvilleindependence.com) to schedule a block of time for you.** The funds raised by the donation ticket sale are critical to the success of the project.

### 2. Fundraising—Business Donations

**Submit names of businesses who might like to make a contribution to support the Independence Day Celebration.** Contact [Dennis Lane \(410-592-2574, 410-591-7067 or \[djlane@juno.com\]\(mailto:djlane@juno.com\)\)](mailto:Dennis.Lane@juno.com) and give him the business name and a contact name and he will send a letter from the Club requesting a donation or you may make the contact on your own.

### 3. Celebration Activities

**Saturday, July 1, 2006**

**Bike & Pet Parade—Manor Shopping Center**  
Registration 9:00 AM Parade 10:00 AM

7:00 AM Help secure the area and set up for the Parade (2-3 people)

9:00 AM — 9:45 AM Registration. (3 people)

9:00 AM — Until after the Parade. Assist with security and safety of the children (10-15 people)

**Rope off the Fireworks viewing area on Jacksonville Fields** —Afternoon (3-4 people)

**Closest-to-the-Pin Contest—Jacksonville Fields** (6-8 People)

5:30 PM—6:00 Set-Up Run Contest 6:00-8:30 PM

**Golf Balls Against Childhood Cancer Ball Drop—Jacksonville Fields** (3-4 People)

Set up 6:30 PM Ball Drop 7:00 PM

**Children's' Games & Activities** (4-6 People)  
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Run games for children.

**Donation Bucket Brigade Through the Crowd** (8-10 People) 8:20 PM - 9:00 PM

**Enjoy the Fireworks show at 9:15 PM**

**Clean-Up After Fireworks** (Everyone)  
Take down caution tape, pick up trash, pack and load all supplies and equipment used.

### 4. Clean-up Continued

**Sunday morning, July 2, 2006 8:30 AM**

Clean up any remaining trash and all fireworks debris on the field.

**We're looking forward to seeing you at the Celebration! Your family, friends, and prospective members are welcome!**

### 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](http://www.optimistinternational.com)

**T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore!