

# 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 Eight Consecutive Years, 2000-2007, & Distinguished in 2007  
www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org 410-592-7067

February 15, 2008

*Optimist International Mission Statement—By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.*

## CALENDAR

### Friday, February 22, 2008

Extreme Bowling at Perry Hall Lanes with the Chinese Exchange Students 9:30 PM—11:30 PM

### Saturday, February 23, 2008

Bingo with the children at Villa Maria 9:30 AM—12:00 Noon

### Wednesday, February 27, 2008

Club Dinner Meeting  
Speaker: Ret. Col. Orville Hughes  
Recent Visit to Africa  
6:30 PM at Future Home

### Friday, February 29, 2008

SMC 2008 Postmark Deadline

### Wednesday, March 5, 2008

Club/Board Meeting  
7:30 PM at Future Home

### Saturday, March 8, 2008

MATHCOUNTS—MD State competition at John Hopkins University

### Wednesday, March 19, 2008

Independence Day Kick-Off  
6:30 PM at Future Home Annex

### Monday, March 31, 2008

SMC 2008 Midpoint

### Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Oratorical Contest  
Time & Location to be announced

### Wednesday, April 9, 2008

Club/Board Meeting  
7:30 PM at Future Home

### Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Zone 9 Oratorical Contest Hosted by GJOC at St. John's Lutheran

### Wednesday, April 30, 2008

SMC 2008 Ends

### Friday, Saturday, Sunday May 2-4, 2008

Third Quarter District Board Meeting/Conference & 2007-2008 District Oratorical Finals  
Carousel Resort, Ocean City, MD

Reservation deadline for the hotel is April 1. Registration forms are available at [ww.mdsmonthoptimist.org](http://ww.mdsmonthoptimist.org).

## Proud to be a Distinguished Club in 2006-2007

Congratulations Greater Jacksonville Optimists! Our Club has been recognized as an Honor Club by Optimist International for eight consecutive years, 2000-2007, and then in 2006-2007 our Club reached the Distinguished level. In order to be Distinguished we had to increase the membership in our Club and share optimism with another community by organizing a New Optimist Club.

We are very proud that we increased our Club's membership and organized a new Optimist Club on the Towson University Campus—the first ever Collegiate Optimist Club in the Maryland South Delaware District!

## Dinner Meeting Wednesday, February 27, 2008 6:30 PM — 9:00 PM Future Home Annex

All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

Guests are welcome.

Ret. Col. Orville Hughes will present a program about his recent visit to the Motherly Care Children's Home in Kenya. This orphanage has many needs with which we may be able to assist.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please contact  
Chair Dave Ward at 410-666-0086 or  
[cwardward@aol.com](mailto:cwardward@aol.com) by  
Monday, February 25  
to make your reservation!



## Bingo with the Children at Villa Maria

Join the fun on Saturday morning, February 23, 2008, for Bingo with the children at the Villa Maria School. We'll begin setting up at 9:30 AM, Bingo will begin at 10:00 AM and run until about 11:30 AM, followed by clean-up.

Members of the TU Optimist Club will be working with us.

Please contact Carol Porcher if you will be able to participate.



## The Chinese Exchange Student Program

The Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club is proud to be a sponsor for the Dulaney High School (DHS) Chinese Exchange Program in 2008.

The DHS Chinese Student Exchange Program offers an opportunity for Chinese stu-

(Continued on Page 4)



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

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

**Greater Jacksonville Optimist  
Club Officers and Directors**

**PRESIDENT**  
Barbara Crain  
410-785-0410

**CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**  
Carol Dunstan  
410-686-0086

**INTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT**  
Mike Borowitz  
410-785-0410

**EXTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT**  
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**SECRETARY**  
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**TREASURER**  
Pam McCollum  
410-4

**SGT. AT ARMS**  
Kevin Alban  
410-667-0544

**DIRECTORS:**  
Carol Applegate  
410-426-8287

Dennis Lane  
410-592-2574

Lyal Peyton  
410-472-2338

Dave Ward  
410-666-0086

**CLUB/BOARD  
MEETINGS**  
First Wed. of Each Month  
7:30 PM  
at

FUTURE HOME  
12900 Jarrettsville Pike  
410-666-0086

Jacksonville Jottings Editor  
Dennis Lane  
410-592-2574 or  
djlane@juno.com



## Stock Market Challenge 2008 Post Mark Deadline February 29, 2008



Our Club's largest fundraiser for community and youth projects, Stock Market Challenge 2008, is currently underway. This is our Club's thirteenth SMC.

Club members organized the project's first mailing at a working dinner meeting in January. Packets were then mailed to all previous participants in our SMC data base and to all Club members.

Participants in SMC select five stocks from the provided list for their portfolio. Their portfolio will consist of \$2,000 of each of the five stocks for a total portfolio of \$10,000 based on the market's closing prices for each of their five stocks on Friday, February 29, 2008. We'll track the portfolios for two months, March and April, and prizes will be awarded at the end of both months based on the participants' portfolios' performance.

Everyone is invited to participate. To obtain a SMC 2008 brochure/entry form call 410-592-7067 to request one or you can print them from our web site, [www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org).

## 2008 Optimist International Scholarship Contests



All youth under the age of 16 as of December 31, 2007, are invited to participate in the **Oratorical Contest**. The topic for the 2008 contest is "**Why me? Why not?**" We conduct two contests—one for boys and one for girls.

The contest begins with participation in a local Club contest such as ours which will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2008. The boy and girl winners of our Club contest will then participate in the Zone 9 contest which our Club is hosting on Wednesday, April 23. The boy and girl winners of the Zone 9 contest will move on to the Maryland South Delaware District Contest which will be held at the Carousel Resort in Ocean City, Maryland the weekend of May 2-4, 2008. The boy and girl winners of the District Contest will each received a \$1,500 scholarship from the Optimist International Foundation.

Additional information about the contest is available on our Club's web site—[www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org). You may also call 410-592-7067 if you have questions or need additional information about the contest. **Please share this information with any youth you know who might be interested in participating.**



The deadline for entries in our Club's **Essay Contest** was January 31, 2008, and the Essays are currently being judged. The topic for the 2008 contest is "**Today's Choices Shape My Future.**"

Our Club's winning Essay will be entered in the Maryland South Delaware District Contest. The winner of the District Contest will then be entered in the Optimist International Contest. Our District winner will receive a \$650 scholarship from the Optimist International Foundation. The winners of the Optimist International Contest will win scholarships as follows from the Optimist International Foundation: 1st \$6,000, 2nd \$3,750, and 3rd \$2,250.



## Aluminum Cans and Tabs Add Up for the Kids!

**THE KIDS NEED YOUR CANS!** Please save your cans to help the kids and please ask others to save cans for you. You may bring the cans to any Optimist meeting or drop them off at Dennis and Ann Lane's house at 14317 Dairydale Ct. in Bald-

win. 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 of the Childhood Cancer Campaign!

# 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.

# GJOC in Action

Ann Lane at Shop with a Cop



New members David Babcock (l) and Dick Frye (r) with Dave Ward, Carol Dunstan, and Dick's friend (l) at the Annual Zone Bull and Oyster Roast in January.

GJOC delegation at the MSDS 2006-2007 Awards dinner in Lancaster— Dennis Lane, Shon McCollum, Barbara Crain, Nancy Neal, Dave Ward, and Carol Dunstan. Ann Lane took the picture.



Carol Porcher prepares to wrap a frog for a child at Villa Maria.



Pam McCollum and President Barbara Crain join Past OIVP Dennis Lane as he inducts new GJOC members Shon McCollum and Nancy Neal.



Our families, such as Tricia and Steve Watkeys and daughter Morgan, donated and wrapped gifts for families in need. Mary Lu Hartley assisted with the delivery. Thank you to everyone!



Past President Carol Dunstan looks at picture collage presented to her thanking her for her service.

Please Save Your Inkjet Cartridges and Toner Cartridges for Recycling to benefit the OI Foundation and Our Club! See information on our web site— [www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org).

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## Towson University Optimist Club



The members of the new TU Optimist Club, which we sponsor, have been busy during the four and a half months since they were chartered on September 27, 2008.



They are getting to know each other and the Optimist organization and have been sharing ideas and planning club projects. Their first community project was volunteering at the Zoo Boo at the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore on Halloween which was followed by a stocking stuffer project for the Children's House at Johns Hopkins. (See picture at left). During their Winter Break two of their members who live in the area participated with our Club in the gift wrapping project for the children at Villa Maria and Shop With a Cop. (See pictures at left)



Maryland South Delaware (MSD) District Governor-Elect and Childhood Cancer Campaign (CCC) District Chair, Dan Hitzelberger, spoke at their December meeting about the CCC and invited them to participate. (See picture at left) They are planning to serve Family Suppers at the Children's House and to collect aluminum cans for recycling for the CCC. They are organizing a team, "The Optimistic Tigers," to participate in Towson University's first ever Relay for Life in April. They will be joining us for Bingo with the children at Villa Maria school next week.



They sold Panera Bread coupon strips over the Winter break as their



Club's first fund raiser to raise money for their community service projects in the Spring Semester.

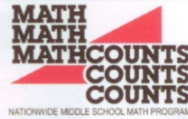
The Club is growing. They added two members before Winter Break and they expect to bring in several more members as a result of participating in the Spring Semester Involvement Fair last week. (See picture above )

### Happy Birthday

Ann Lane—02/10  
Dennis Coster—02/12  
Fran Betty—02/15  
Sue Gilmore—02/16  
Donald Bennett—02/25

### Happy Anniversary

Hans & Liz Jonsson—02/29



## Maryland State MATHCOUNTS

The Maryland State MATHCOUNTS competition for middle school students will be held on **Saturday, March 8, 2008, at Johns Hopkins University** and we have the opportunity to participate helping with registration, proctoring, and scoring. Please contact Mike Borowitz for specific details.

## The Chinese Exchange Student Program

(Continued From Page 1)

students from Xi'an, China to visit America and for DHS students to visit China. This year, twelve Chinese Students and two teachers from First Railway Middle School (in China, secondary schools are called middle schools) will be here from February 12 - April 6, 2008. They will be attending DHS and staying with host families who have students at DHS.

Our first activity with the students will be **Extreme Bowling at Perry Hall Lane, 4359 Ebenezer Rd., on Friday evening Feb. 22, 2008, from 9:30 PM - 11:30 PM.** Please plan to arrive at 9:00 PM so everyone is ready to bowl by 9:30. Optimists are invited to attend as a spectator and/or bowlers if we have enough who want to bowl.

Please contact Fred Figlewski if you would like to attend. For more information visit [www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org](http://www.jacksonvilleoptimists.org).

## 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**

# Together Everyone Achieves More!