

PL Optimist Club – Feb. 2011

“Promise yourself – to look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.” This is the fourth of ten stanzas in the Optimist Creed. Especially appropriate this time of year as we Minnesotans must be very “optimistic” that this cold snap will eventually come to an end! We hear these quotes and mottos all of the time. “PMA” (positive mental attitude), glass half empty or half full, when life gives you lemons make lemonade, all equating to being an optimist about life. Lead by example and those around you, including our youth, will be influenced in a positive way.

The PL Optimist Club has many activities for youth coming up in February. January 31 is the deadline for registration for the Oratorical Contest. There is one session remaining on January 27 at Hidden Oaks Middle School, Room 395 from 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm, to help students write their speeches. Also starting Jan. 31 there will be a speech coach available one evening a week at PLHS to work with students. The contest date is Thurs, Feb. 24, 7 pm in the PLHS Lecture Hall. This year’s topic is *“If I Were the Leader of the Free World, the First Issue I Would Address Would Be. . .”* For more information go to <http://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us> under News or contact Sue Heaton at heatonjorenby@mchsi.com.

The Essay Contest deadline has been moved up to February 10, but it is suggested that all entries be submitted by February 4 to ensure that the essays are mailed in time to arrive by deadline. This year’s topic is *“How My Education is the Key to a Successful Future”*. Applicants must be under 19 as of Dec. 31, 2010. For more information contact Lee Shimek at lshimek@priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us. In both contests medals and monetary awards will be awarded to the top three students. Our winners will go on to further competitions to compete for \$2,500 college scholarships.

The Junior Optimist’s annual Operation Glass Slipper will be February 15 until February 25. Operation Glass Slipper is a formal dress drive where they collect gently used prom dresses. The dresses will be donated to underprivileged girls. Many closets out there contain formals which were worn one time. Think about the pleasure these dresses would give someone who could not otherwise afford a prom dress. For more information contact Amy Raetz at Kitkatr@integraonline.com.

The PL Optimists invite you to see the “sunny side” and come see what we are about. We meet two times a month, except July and August, at noon at Fong’s in Prior Lake. Meetings last approximately one hour starting with a meeting and program and followed by lunch. Upcoming programs include The Prior Lake Savage Area Educational Foundation on Feb. 9 and the Boy Scouts on February 23. On February 11 we will host a Valentine Party for residents of Prior Manor. For more information on our club, meeting topics and dates go to www.priorlakeoptimistclub.com or contact President, Mary Nagarajan at marynagarajan@gmail.com. To learn more about Optimist International go to <http://optimist.org>.

It may be cold here in Minnesota but there are few places with bluer skies on a sunny day. Think positive and pass on a smile to everyone you meet. Remember it takes more muscles to frown than to smile – look at the sunny side and be positive!