

## **PL Optimist – Nov 11**

“Praise youth and it will prosper” is an Irish proverb; as true today as when it first penned years ago. Our youth are our future and the Optimist Club mission it that by providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids. Make an investment in your future, join the Prior Lake Optimist Club and help our youth “prosper”. There are so many ways to get involved!

The Junior Optimist Club meets every Monday morning before school at Prior Lake High School. Participation in this Club is a wonderful way for kids to give back to their community. No attendance is taken and members can participate as much as their schedule allows. Coming up in December is the annual Toys for Tots drive. Toys can be dropped off at the schools in ISD 719 from December 5<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars and consider donating to children in need to help make their holidays a special time.

On November 16 the Prior Lake Optimist Club will honor over 30 local students by presenting them with the Youth Appreciation Award. Since 1957 Optimist Clubs have recognized youth for their talents in the arts, athletics, academics, and for contributions to community. This is the most popular Optimist International program with over 2,000 clubs participating each year. Teachers and advisors in our community have recommended students to receive this award. In next month’s article we will acknowledge these students.

The PL Optimist Club is a social group as well. November 19 the annual Garage Mahal takes place. Members of the club spend the evening socializing, eating great food and most importantly: bidding on auction items. The proceeds from this fun event benefit the PL Optimist Club. Fun and good deeds rolled in to one!

Come join us – see what we are about. Meetings last approximately one hour starting with a meeting and program and followed by lunch at Fong’s in Prior Lake. On November 9<sup>th</sup> the program is the CAP agency, a private non-profit organization providing services to residents of Scott, Carver and Dakota Counties. For more information on our club, meeting topics and dates go to [www.priorlakeoptimistclub.com](http://www.priorlakeoptimistclub.com) or contact President, Sue Heaton at [heatonjorenby@mchsi.com](mailto:heatonjorenby@mchsi.com). To learn more about Optimist International go to <http://optimist.org>.

“November comes, and November goes, with the last red berries and the first white snows.” *Elizabeth Coatsworth*. November is the month of Thanksgiving and time to be with family and friends. Extend yourselves and give back to those less fortunate. Make a difference and have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Shawn Richey – Public Relations PL Optimist Club