

Club members, Jr. Optimist leaders and District Officers are bcc'd this note. Editor, Tom Neal

Sunnyside Newsletter Oct. 15, 2023

Farmington/Farmington Hills Optimist Club

"We provide hope and a positive vision, as we bring out the best in our youth, our communities, and ourselves."

Making a Difference, Today!

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### **Meet the Fire Chief at Club Meeting Wednesday Morning**

Our special guest speaker this week is Farmington Hills Fire Chief John Unruh. Come learn how our Farmington Hills Fire Department is keeping us safe. We start social time at 7:30am. See you at First Presbyterian Church.

### **Read New Member Anne Sebesta's Profile**

I grew up in Royal Oak, the second oldest of 7 kids, and graduated from M.S.U. Over the years I've worked in various environments such as in a hospital's business office, a real estate company, law firms, a big corporation and, lastly, in the Farmington School District's Athletic Dept. where I retired in 2022. I met a lot of interesting people during those working years and learned many skills along the way. But now I want to devote my time and energy in a different capacity – getting involved and volunteering for the Optimists Club and helping the youth of our community become future leaders.

My husband, John, and I met at a church in Northville many years ago and got married in 1999. We both worked full time and managed numerous single-family rental homes in the early years of our marriage. But in 2005 we decided to adopt a child and, after a two-year wait, welcomed our daughter, who had just turned 7, into our family. That was the best decision we ever made. She is a fellow Spartan (Go Green!) and is now working in a hospital in Grosse Pointe.

## Farmington/Farmington Hills Breakfast Optimist Club

My personal interests include gardening, playing the piano and, in 2023 I wrote a Play about Christmas Traditions which will be performed at First Presbyterian Church in December. Also, within my church life I've held a couple of leadership positions over the years, but most of the time I simply enjoy the social aspect of connecting with others in various ways – bible study, mission work, and volunteering at social gatherings, etc.

### Last Wednesday's Meeting

Last week we had a visit from our North Farmington High School Parents Leader, Pauline Kim. She shared a project that was started when her daughter was in the Warner Jr. Optimist Club and now in the NFHS Club. It is making sleeping mats for homeless out of plarn (Plastic yarn) which is made from plastic bags you get from stores.



## **Farmington/Farmington Hills Breakfast Optimist Club**

### **Jr. Optimist Club Projects Win Awards**

We received notice from the O.I. Youth Programs and Community Activities Coordinator that (2) of our Jr. Optimist Clubs won club project awards. Our Middle School Club that won for their project was **Power Middle School**. Our Elementary School Club project was done by **Beechview Elementary**. Each will receive \$50 as a reward for winning best project! Yeah team!

### **PGI (Personal Growth & Involvement) Program**

PGI is a program that recognizes Optimists for service and encourages them to get involved, all the while fostering their personal growth. The benefits of the program are to recognize and appreciate members for personal and professional accomplishments. Through participation in the program, it gives members an opportunity to participate in the long-term involvement in the club's activities. More will be in next newsletter.

### **Super Zone Zoom Meeting, Monday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**

Monday, October 16th, 7-8:30 pm. Meet members of other nearby clubs, learn about projects and other opportunities to help kids in our community. Meeting Link: Meeting ID 814 9981 9057, Passcode 0fSwG3

### **Boo Bash at Heritage Park, October 29**

We need 6-8 volunteers from 10:30am to 3pm in costumes or not, to staff stations for trick or treaters at Heritage Park. (Costumes strongly suggested). This is a good opportunity for members who can't make the 7:30 am meetings to participate in a project to help kids in our community. We need your help!

Let Terry Tipton (tiptonte@flash.net) know if you can help in the morning or afternoon shift.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. District Optimist Conference – Nov. 10th-11th**

It will be held in Bay City, MI at the Double Tree Riverfront Hotel. Rooms are \$119 per night (Call 989-891-6000 to make reservation by Oct. 20th. Code: Michigan District Optimist)

## Farmington/Farmington Hills Breakfast Optimist Club

### Choose Optimism Podcasts

Here is the link to a number of podcasts:

RSS Feed <https://feeds.captivate.fm/chooseoptimism/>

- How to conduct a world class Oratorical Contest
- Optimism Brings Out the Sunny Side in Life
- The JOI of Optimism

**Website:** [f2hoptimists.org](https://f2hoptimists.org) [new members can join on front page of website.]

**Facebook:** Farmington/Farmington Hills Optimist Club

### Calendar

|         |                                                 |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Oct 16  | Super Zone Zoom Meeting, 7:00pm                 |
| Oct 18* | Club Meeting – speaker, FH Chief John Unruh     |
| Oct 25* | Principal’s Breakfast                           |
| Oct 29  | Boo Bash @ Heritage Park, 10:30am               |
| Nov 1   | Board Meeting on Zoom                           |
| Nov 8*  | Veterans Breakfast w/State Dir. of Amer. Legion |
| Nov 15* | Speaker: Gerrard Allen, new CEO of Chamber      |
| Nov 23  | <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</b>                      |
| Nov 29* | Hiking the Pacific Crest Trail, Jeff Ely        |

\* 7:30am-8:30am at First Presbyterian Church of Farmington.

### Birthdays

#### October

- 21 – Susan Walker
- 25 – Cathy Neal
- 25 – Randy Patterson
- 26 – Tom Neal
- 29 – Jeff Clatterbaugh

### Attachments:

- Newsletter PDF
- Beechview Club Project Award PDF
- Power Club Project Award PDF

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Club Project Form:

Club Name: Beechview Elementary Club Number#: C0237 Project Date: 03-06-2023

Name of Project: **Waves of Grace**

Type of Project: **Service Fundraising** Club Building

Number of Members Participated: 57 members- school-wide event

Number of Adults Participated: 12

Number of People Served: 4- one family

Amount of Money Raised: \$784

Number of Hours Worked: 6 hours

Brief Description of the Project:

In February 2023, the JOI Club at Beechview Elementary School sponsored "Beach Day at Beechview." Students and staff were asked to donate \$1.00 or more in exchange for wearing beach themed attire. As a result of the event, \$784.00 was raised for Waves of Hope. They did not choose Waves of Hope randomly as the recipient of this fundraiser. This organization was chosen because of a direct connection with a special teacher. Meghan White was a beloved physical education teacher who waged a heroic battle against a formidable foe. She passed away from ovarian cancer in February 2022. She and her family were given a remarkable vacation experience surrounded by the beauty of the ocean to help relieve the stress and anxiety that accompanies cancer patients and their loved ones. On the one-year anniversary of her loss, the Beechview community honored a beloved teacher and created a legacy that will live on in her absence.

Attached you will find back-up information regarding this fabulous event including photos and a news release.

Club Project Form:

Club Name: Power Middle School Club Number#: **A2008** Project Date: January- June 2023

Name of Project: **Learn and Lead and Sending Smiles**

Type of Project: **Service** Fundraising **Club Building**

Number of Members Participated: 9

Number of Adults Participated: 2

Number of People Served: 65

Amount of Money Raised: \$0

Number of Hours Worked: 6.5

Brief Description of the Project:

Learn and Lead: Students from Power Middle School chose to focus on team building exercises this winter. Members created, organized, and implemented activities for each meeting because true leadership isn't a purely academic pursuit. Student leaders aren't working in the abstract, but rather in the here and now. They are thrown into situations and must respond. These games are fun, but also give students the opportunity to practice leadership skills. Each meeting event focused on group cooperation, fundamentals of communication and of course fun. Each activity had four main components: introduction of activity and goals, play the game or issue the challenge, break to reflect on member participation, (positive communication styles, use of names, eye contact, etc...) complete the activity. Group members learned six new leadership activities that they can keep in their future tool belt as they grow as leaders in our schools and community.

1. Name Juggling- get to know you
2. Rubber Chicken Relays- how to respond when one is challenged by a peer
3. Stack it Up- Game of Strategy focusing on contributions
4. Recycle and Create: Group challenges using easily found materials
5. Shape Shifting- Creative problem solving
6. Maneuver the Minefield-trust

Sending Smiles: Members ended their year decorating sixty-five oral hygiene kits for The Matrix Center in Detroit. These kits were distributed to the Head Start Preschool Program.

Attached you will find copies of back up materials along with photos of the hygiene kits and team activities.

***For any additional information or questions please contact:  
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