



# Central Macomb Optimist Club



BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS

Volume 6, No 9

September 2009

OPTIMIST CLUB 17-504



## Big Easy Backyard Feast

*Event was wonderful, wet and wild*

### Tucker's Provide Food & Fun

... from President Elaine Lyon

On Friday, August 28th the rain poured, however Karen and Mike Tucker found a way to bring the sunshine and a whole lot of fun to their Big, Easy, Backyard Feast!



The food cooked by Chef Michael was INCREDIBLE beginning with a wonderful corn chowder. That was followed by a seafood gumbo, Cajun ham and a seafood salad. After dinner, Karen whipped up her secret hot chocolate recipe, bananas foster, mud pies and King cake (there is really a cake called King cake and it's fabulous!)



Once everyone was full the games started. Karen came up with some really fun games. Those of you who were not there would be impressed with some of the singing abilities of our club members and their spouses. Who knew we had members that could sing David Cassidy songs, songs in Polish and remember old nursery rhymes — lots of laughs and prizes !!!

Thank you so much Karen and Mike for opening up your BEAUTIFUL home to us and for your hospitality. The gifts collected will help our St. Patrick's Day dance be a huge success!

50/50 Winner was Barb Lyon

### Central Macomb Optimist Club

**President**  
**Elaine Lyon**

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**Internal V.P.**  
**Barry Burnham**

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**External V.P.**  
**Donna Onifer**

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**Secretary**  
**Pat Rabaut Miller /**  
**Kelley Scalici**

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**Treasurer**  
**Kathy Vatalaro**

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#### Directors (08-09)

**Julie Gola**  
**Barb Lyon**  
**Dot Hardy**

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#### Directors (09-10)

**Craig Babcock**  
**Fred Lyon**  
**Rose Pipia**



## Braggs and Fines

**Elaine** - Friend Karen had back surgery and all went OK but was in hospital longer than anticipated... now home recuperating.

**Donna** - Husband Nick bought a new 1967 Nova Super Sport (SS).

**Keith** - Armada Fair this week... and noted that he would not mention the silver ladle!

**Barry** - Bowling fundraiser was GREAT!

### September Birthdays...

**1 - Cindie Szarek**

**1 - Paul Kowal**

**2 - Rose Merecki**



**Dues: \$10 per month (\$40 new member fee)**  
**Meeting dates: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month**

**September 2nd - Regular Meeting @ 7 pm**  
**at Hamlin Pub**

**September 16th - Regular Meeting @ 7 pm**  
**at Hamlin Pub**

**All regular meetings at - Hamlin Pub (22 & Hayes)**  
**New Members & Guests Welcome!**

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[www.centralmacomboptimist.com](http://www.centralmacomboptimist.com)



# Boys & Girls Club - BBQ

## Fiesta Lunch a Grand Success

The Fiesta Lunch on Friday, August 21st at the Boys and girls Club was a grand success. The kids loved the food... members heard the children say that this was the best food they ever had. Elaine Lyon and Pat Miller watched over the dessert table and made sure the kids each received their share of treats. Watermelon went like wildfire... and Barry Burnham and Cindie Szarek poured over 300 cups of lemonade to some really thirty kids.



After the feast the games began and members watched over the Optimist prize table (the biggest attraction by far). Over 150 prizes (our club provided \$250 for prizes) were made available as Barry manned the games and other members passed out the prizes to the winners. The left over prizes given to the Boys and Girls Club Director for upcoming events. GREAT JOB !



# Bowling



The Wietecha's



Karen Tucker



Marty

Optimist Club Bowling fundraiser assists the Dennis Tarlton family with \$1,316 check. Presented by Richard Paul at the August meeting.



8/5/09  
Results

## Help Needed: Knitting & Crocheting

The Central Macomb Optimist Club is currently undertaking a project where we are providing Beanie Babies that are swaddled in a knitted or crocheted blanket to the Kids Kicking Cancer program to be given to children with cancer that need comfort.

Thanks to Kathy Vatalaro and Rose Merecki we currently have about 150 Beanie Babies waiting for their blanket. We have the pattern for the Magic Hug Squares, so if you or anyone you know has some leftover yarn and could help us out we would appreciate it. If you have any Beanie Babies to donate, we will be sure to find them a wonderful new home. *Elaine*

Each will have the following note: *This magic square was made especially for you. It is made out of hugs. When you are sad or mad or scared or bored, hold this square close to you and it will give you the comfort of a million hugs. It will love you no matter what!*



THANKS BARRY

## Club Membership



- Craig Babcock**
- Barry Burnham**
- Jessica Campbell**
- Janet Dunn \***
- Paul Gayan \***
- Julie Gola \***
- Mark Hackel**
- Dorothy (Dot) Hardy**
- Martin Hardy**
- Patricia Kerich**
- Paul Kowal**
- Terri Kowal**
- Sarah Lee-Ellena \***
- Bonnie Locke**
- Barb Lyon**
- Elaine Lyon**
- Fred Lyon**
- Rose Merecki**
- Pat Rabaut Miller**
- Karen Monville \***
- Donna Onifer**
- Richard Paul \***
- Shelly Penzien**
- Rose Pipia**
- Keith Rengert \***
- Kelley Scalici**
- Kim Steffen \***
- Cindie Szarek \***
- Karen Tucker**
- Kathy Vatalaro**
- Joe Wietecha**
- David Wallis**

32 Total Members  
\* Charter Members (9)

**By providing hope and positive vision,  
Optimists bring out the best in kids!**



# Central Macomb Optimist Activity Calendar

- September 2nd Regular Meeting at Hamlin Pub - 7 p.m.
- September 12 Tiger Game: Tigers vs. Blue Jays (Pizza Deck)
- September 16th Regular Meeting at Hamlin Pub - 7 p.m.
- September 16-19th Texas Hold 'EM (Snookers)
- October 7th Installation Banquet at Kathy Vatalaro's home - Chicken and Pizza provided. Please place name on sign-up sheet (RSVP) along with a dish to pass.

## Annual Installation Banquet

- October 12th Walk for Diabetes at Detroit Zoo (help needed both walkers and volunteer to help with registration) - Contact Barry

## Walk for Diabetes - Detroit Zoo

- October 24th Harvest of Hearts—Macomb Charitable Foundation event at Cracklewood (see [www.macombcharitablefoundation.org](http://www.macombcharitablefoundation.org) for details)

## Harvest of Hearts - Cracklewood

# Challengers for Life Kids Camp - Sunshine Store

## Club approves \$1,000 to help stock store for next

This last July (July 22nd), several members of our club went to the Challengers for Life Kids Camp sponsored through Vision Hope to help with their carnival. This was a wonderful experience for our club and the members that assisted with the event.

President Lyon noted that while club members look forward to doing this again next year, our club has taken a special interest in the Sunshine Store. The store provides new and gently used clothing and accessories for children attending the camp. Each child is allowed to shop (select several free outfits) at the store and take the items home with them.

Club members were touched by the operation and need of the Sunshine Store, and Kelley Scalici has agreed to begin take on the project of assisting with the store inventory for next year. Thus our club has approved \$1,000 to help stock the store in conjunction with the Challengers for Life Kids Camp.

Any members that can help with this worthwhile project are encouraged to contact Elaine or Kelley.



Donna Onifer, Dot Hardy, Julie Gola and Elaine attend camp



# Kids Kicking Cancer Program Update

Guest speaker Cindy Chohen gave an overview of the Kids Kicking Cancer program. She noted that this program serves the Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County area and they are now into their 10th year.

The program is sanctioned by physicians for kids with cancer ages 2 1/2 to 20 years of age and assists with pain management. Martial arts instructors work 1 on 1 with kids and provide weekly classes at hospitals. The program is free to children with cancer and is funded through donations and fund raising.

President Elaine thanked Cindy for sharing information about her program with club members.

Special Guests last meeting were Dennis & Karen Tarton , along with his sister Anne Marie and daughters Alexis and Angelina - THANKS FOR ATTENDING !



# Central Macomb Optimist Club

**Bringing Out The Best In Kids**



## 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 you 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 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.

The Central Macomb Optimist Newsletter is published monthly. Please feel free to submit an article or photo of interest to the Co-Editors: Keith Rengert & Kim Steffen / [KRengert@Comcast.Net](mailto:KRengert@Comcast.Net)

**CENTRAL MACOMB OPTIMIST CLUB**

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**Clinton Township,**

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# September



September 2nd—Meeting @ 7 at Hamblin Pub

September 16th - Meeting @ 7 at Hamlin Pub  
Hamlin Pub (Hayes & 22 Mile)

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