



THE CENTRAL MACOMB OPTIMIST



JAN-FEB
2020

The Newsletter of the Central Macomb Optimist Club

A Fun Time Had By All at Christmas Auction

The 2019 Christmas Auction was held at Freddy's Bar and Grill on Thursday December 5. Just about everyone came home with a raffle prize or winning auction bid! The auction was fast paced and led by our emcee Kathe Searle with the help of our Christmas Elves and setup team. A merry thank you to Kathe, Teresa Edwards, Nancy Morello, Lynn Artes, Debbie Doran, Diane Putt, Cindy Krezewski, Bill Konrad Gil Searle and Danielle Grassmyer. Proceeds from the event supported our adopted Christmas families.



ADOPTED CHRISTMAS FAMILIES



CMOC supported two families this past holiday season. Thank you to Elaine Lyon for working with the Macomb Charitable Foundation to support a Macomb County family and to Dave Fries for finding a military family for our support.. A big merry thank you to our shoppers for our adopted Macomb family—(from left to right) Fred Lyon, Dan Kardasz, Elaine Lyon, Cindy Krezewski, Leesa Paul, Katie Calderone, Laura Free-stone and Sue Kardasz.



Visit our website: <http://www.centralmacomboptimist.org/> and follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Central-Macomb-Optimist-Club-Michigan-USA-120634814661647/?fref=ts>

Honoring our Veterans—Wreaths Across America

On Saturday December 14, several of our CMOC members and Boy Scouts participated in this year's National Wreaths Across America event to honor veterans by placing wreaths on the graves of our veterans interred at Resurrection Cemetery. The day began



with a ceremony at Fernhill Golf Club to acknowledge attending veterans for their service. Among those was club member Bill Konrad who served in Vietnam. We then proceeded to the cemetery to lay the wreaths. We appreciate the following members for attending: Mary B Greer, Barry Burnham (one of the organizers of the event), Dave Putt,

Teresa Edwards and Dave Fries (not pictured are Bill Konrad and Teresa's grandson Mylan.)

The Mitten Tree tumbles due to Over-Kindness



Due to overwhelming support from COMC members and many others— this year's Mitten Tree at Ebeling Elementary School in Utica almost met its demise. The weight of donated items caused the tree to tumble over at this annual event. I am assured that there were no hurt feelings or anyone sitting on the bench when the tree fell. Thank you to all members that provided mittens, gloves, hats and whatever for both kids and adults who will be in need of them this winter.

And another merry thank you to Richard and Leesa Paul for organizing this event again this past season.



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Meeting Schedule

Jan 15 Club meeting 7 PM @ Hamlin Pub

Jan 15 Board meeting

Feb 5 Club Meeting 7 PM@ Hamlin Pub

Feb 5 Board Meeting

Feb 19 Soup & Chili Cookoff @ the Debbie Doran household (see article)

Guest Speaker News

Mary Kilian of Play Place Autism & Special Needs Center was our guest speaker at the November 20 meeting. Play-Place's mission is to provide a fun-filled, judgment-free, haven of hope for families affected by autism and other special needs. The club is working with Mary to find out how we can best support their organization.

Troop 209 is visiting us on January 15. See article on this page for how you can support our sponsored troop.

Molly Lemaster, RN Organ Transplant Coordinator for Beaumont Health Center, will be giving a presentation on the importance of organ donation at our March 18 meeting.

The Boy Scouts Are Coming

COMC is the chartered organization for Boy Scout Troop 209. On January 15, a few of the scouts and leaders will be attending our club meeting to give us an update on how the troop is doing. The scouts have assembled a video and powerpoint presentation for us.

It should be a very entertaining evening. In addition, the scouts would appreciate that club members consider supporting their fundraising efforts. They will be bringing popcorn for sale at the meeting and will be taking bark mulch orders for April home delivery. Time to think about your landscaping needs. Proceeds from their sales go towards reducing camping costs for scouts in the unit.

Popping Corn \$10
Caramel with Nuts \$20
Cheddar Popcorn \$20
Microwave Popcorn \$20
Chocolate with Caramel \$25
Sea Salt/Caramel \$25
Caramel Corn \$10



St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance Saturday March 7



YOUR St Patrick Committee

Sue Kardasz 586-909-6263

Lynn Artes

Debbie Doran

Laura Freestone and Elaine Lyon

Location:

Lions Club, 58000 Van Dyke, Washington

****YOU** can help NOW by spreading the word to your family and friends that you are asking them to attend the best IRISH Gathering in Macomb County AND they will eat , drink, and support LOCAL MACOMB COUNTY CHILDREN all for only \$50.00 per person!!! ... and the DRESS is CASUAL, Green is the color of the evening, Jeans, a crazy hat, some beads whatever!!! We have fun while raising GREEN!!!

We are looking for PRIZES...yes, please help the PRIZE Patrol .

We are looking for gift cards from the area-- please \$25.00 value (or more)

we are looking for some major donors of our bigger prizes

We are looking for SCRATCH OFF MICHIGAN Lottery Tickets

Zone 15 Meeting is February 4

Lt. Governor Sue Kardasz has invited you to a **ZONE Meeting on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 6:30PM at Hamlin Pub at 22 Mile and Hayes!!!** In the world of OPTIMISTS a lot of club "work" happens in the 2nd and 3rd Q of the OPTIMIST year. Let's be ready and excited NOW!

The meeting will begin at 6:30 promptly. Sue's goal is to finish by 8:00-8:15.. Pizza and salad will be supplied You are asked to cover the cost of your personal beverages.



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Get your Spoons Ready for the Soup and Chili Cookoff

This year's Soup and Chili Cookoff will take place on Wednesday February 19. We would like to thank Debbie Doran and her husband for hosting this annual event again. The Doran address is **59300 Linenger Lane, Washington Township**. As in the past, there are three categories for which to enter your prize dish: 1) Cream Based Soup, 2) Broth Based Soup and 3) Chili. The event begins at 6 PM. However, for those bringing a soup/chili for judging we ask that you arrive at 5:30. We will have more details at our upcoming club meetings. All submissions for judging need to be submitted to Debbie ahead of time.

Matching Grant Continues our Support of Macomb Academy

The COMC Board submitted and then agreed to match a \$500 matching grant from Optimist International to continue our support of the Macomb Academy. The Macomb Academy provides a study/work environment for young people age 18 to 26 with cognitive disabilities. We began our relationship with the Academy two years ago by in-



stalling a raised vegetable garden bed to augment their cooking program. The new funds will triple the size of the vegetable garden and provide additional landscaping, composting and health-related educational needs for the students on their road to semi-independence and employment.

2nd Quarter Michigan District Meeting

Are you curious to know more about how Optimist International operates at the District (Michigan) Level?

The 2nd Quarterly District Meeting is February 29 in Frankenmuth. It will be held at Zehnder's of Frankenmuth at 730 S Main St. Frankenmuth, MI 48734. Please let Kathy Vatalaro know if you plan to attend so she can submit your registration.



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Club Calendar

Jan-20	JANUARY EVENTS	April-20	APRIL EVENTS
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Feb-20	FEBRUARY EVENTS	May-20	MAY EVENTS
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Mar-20	MARCH EVENTS	Jun-20	JUNE EVENTS
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