

An Optimistic View

February 2009

Volume 36

Number 5

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Meetings this month:

Charleston Civic Center
12 noon – 1 PM
February 3
February 10
February 24

Board Meeting:

February 12, 2009 (12-1)
Commercial Insurance Service
Next to Train Depot
3rd Floor Meeting Room
Bring your lunch
Everyone is welcome!

Monte Carlo Nights:

2 Pending – Details Later

Region Meeting:

February 21, 2009
Charleston, WV

District Meeting:

February 13-14-15, 2009
Radcliff, KY

OPTIMISTIC THOUGHTS

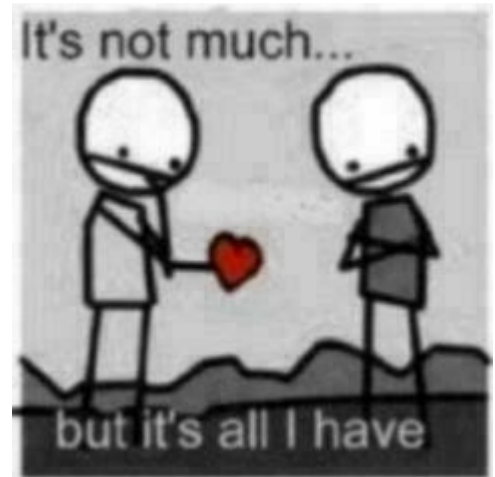


The perspective of Love doesn't leave anybody out. Until your vision and compassion is big enough to include those who oppose you, you are simply contributing to the continuation of destructiveness. The end of separation is the salvation for all.

- Adyashanti

Love is unconditional. The thing we call "love" isn't love at all; it is simply a statement of the behaviors that are acceptable or unacceptable within a particular relationship.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



REGION MEETING

Region Meetings have replaced our Zone Meetings and are held quarterly. This quarter our club is hosting the Region Meeting on Saturday, February 21, 2009 at 1 pm. Location of the meeting is at Panera Bread located out Corridor G close to Toys'R'Us. Panera's has a meeting room to the right of the counter where you order.

In order to encourage members of our club to attend we will not hold our regular meeting that week (Feb 17) and will reimburse each attendee \$8.50 towards their meal that day. This is the cost we pay for our luncheon meals at the Civic Center.

At Region Meetings you will meet fellow Optimists from Jackson County, Sissonville, Nicholas County, West Charleston, South Charleston, St Albans, Huntington, and Ashland, KY. Each club will briefly speak about the various projects they are doing to help area youth and how they are raising funds.

There will also be door prizes. Please try to attend.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special Thanks goes out to Rachel Shanteau and Gabe Dionne in making arrangements for all the kids at the Davis Child Shelter (and their chaperones) to attend the WV Symphony on Jan 16th. Rachel obtained 15 tickets and worked with Gabe to make contact with the Davis Child Shelter staff. The kids really enjoyed this event.

2008-2009 OFFICERS

President.....Beth Kerns
549-5813

Vice Presidents.....Tony Ward
552-4951
Angie Lanning
539-1737

Secretary.....Carolyn Zain
345-8118

Treasurer.....Kat Simmons
345-8000

1 Year Directors.....Rick Hill
353-5298
Art Standish
353-8135
Randy Wright
380-0108

2 Year Directors.....Steve Streets
388-9482
Alice Anne Robertson
926-8878
Tom Wilson
353-8108

Past President.....Bryan Carey
546-5313



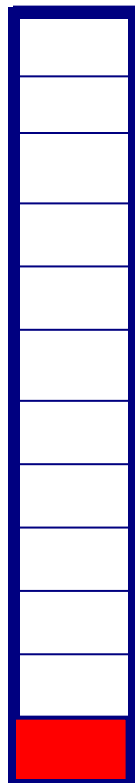
The Optimist Club of Charleston
was established in 1973 and has
served Charleston's Youth for 35 years.

We are part of the:
Kentucky-West Virginia District
Region 4

Our mailing address is:
Optimist Club of Charleston
P.O. Box 6084
Charleston, WV 25362

MEETINGS:
12 Noon Each Tuesday
Charleston Civic Center

Newsletter Editor:
Beth Kerns 549-5813



Goal = 60 Tables

Monte Carlos have been slow this year. We currently have two in the works. More details as they become available.

We need a total of 60 tables during the year in order to raise \$6000 to be used to fund projects for Youth in the area.

If you know someone that is looking for a fun type of entertainment have them contact Angie Lanning for details.

Each block on the meter to the left represents 5 tables.

Dec 13 – 5 Tables National Assoc of Postal Supervisors

STAR STORE

One of our projects associated with the Davis Child Shelter is to provide items for their Star Store. The Star Store is a form of reward for the children at the shelter. They earn credits for different things they accomplish. The credits in turn can be used to “purchase” items from the store. There is not any particular quantity required for any of the items as these are treats that are earned.

Suggested items are:

- Magazines
- Books
- Puzzles
- Art & Craft Supplies
- Toiletries
- Games, Cards
- Stuffed Animals
- Socks
- Backpacks
- Costume Jewelry
- Make-Up
- Finger nail polish
- Notepads, Notebooks
- Pens, Markers, Crayons



Please bring your items to be donated to our meetings. You may also contact Beth to have items picked up or if you need more information about this program.

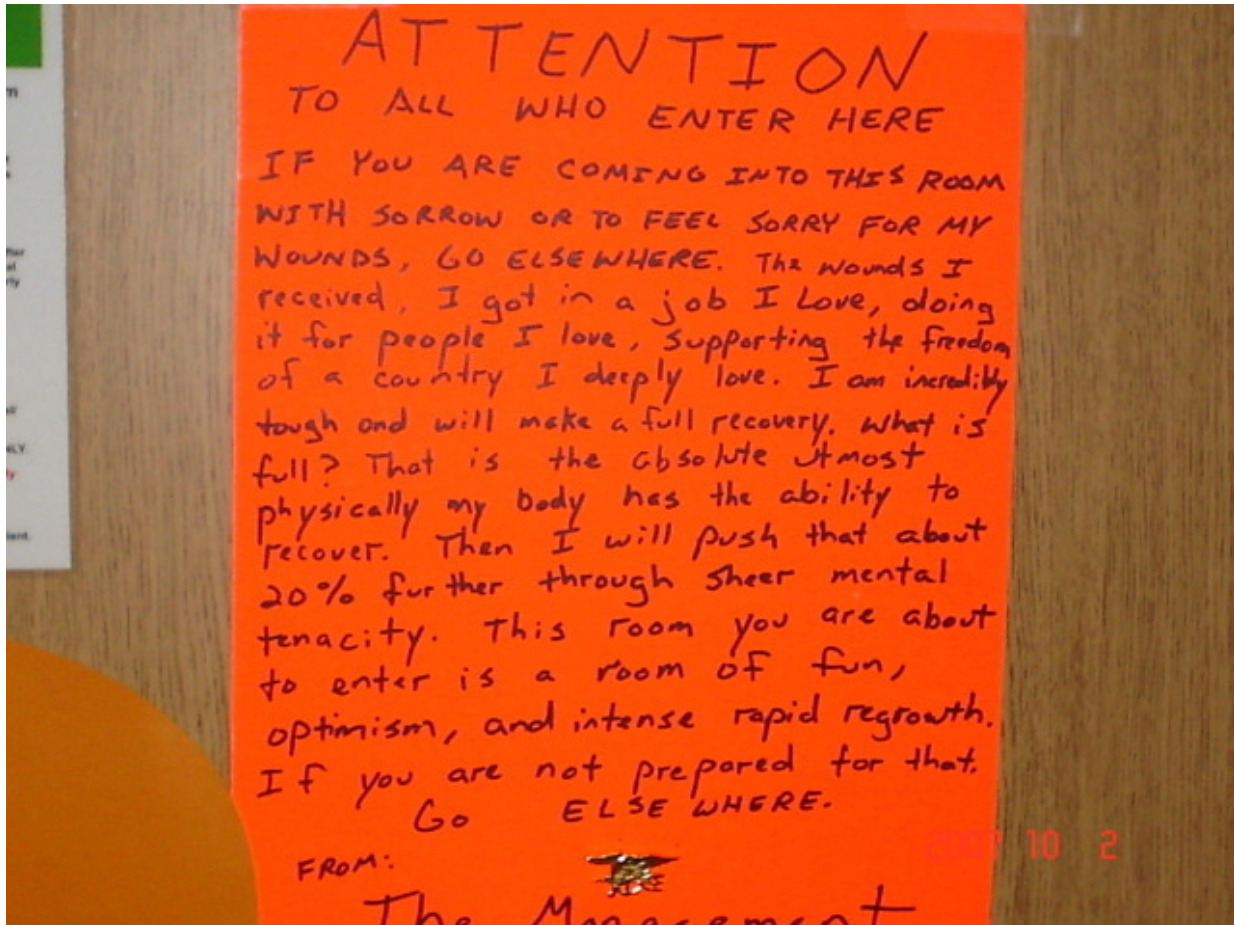
DAVIS CHILD SHELTER VALENTINE'S PARTY AND CARD MAKING

Special thanks to Club Members Pauline Shaver & Beth Kerns, former member Judy Lowe, and prospective member Rachel Stanteau for taking time to visit with the kids at Davis Child Shelter. During the visit we helped the kids make valentines and decorations for the shelter. After letting their creativity flow they were served refreshments. All seemed to have a great time, even though they were a little reluctant to act like they wanted to play with markers, glue, glitter and stickers. Once we got them started it was hard to make them quit.



NAVY SEAL INSPIRES

A Navy SEAL (U.S) lieutenant is recovering from his wounds in the Bethesda Naval Hospital. This particular man has spoken, though, with such eloquence by posting a sign on the door to his hospital room. He suffered a shot with a 7.62mm round in Afghanistan. The bullet went sideways through the front of his face across his eye sockets just behind the cheek bones. He will require about 33 facial repair operations. My source reports that the lieutenant is doing well, his force of will, his inner strengths undiminished. The proof of that begins with the sign on his door.....



He never thought a few lines hastily composed, would create such a stir. It's just something that came to him after his jaw was wired shut and a visitor to his hospital room was shocked by his appearance. "I wrote to my wife, I said, "That will never happen again." And I penned out that note right then and there. I'm glad that it motivates and inspires people, but for us, you know I'm not the exception. You know, this is the norm. You know, this is the mindset of the SEAL teams."

There's just no quit in him, says Stu Bender, his trainer, in fact Stu has to stop him from working too hard. "I was told by several doctors I would never bend my arm again. So you know, if you have the heart, and the tenacity and the drive, you can get a lot more than any doctor will ever accept that you may get. So never quit trying. And now I'll get on my soapbox."

And as for the 11 X 17 sign that put him in the limelight "Oh yeah I have it at my house. It's actually gonna get framed. And it's going to hang in the wounded ward at Bethesda Naval Hospital."

But Jay has a message anyone who sees him, or someone like him, out on the street: "They should take that time to say, hey, you know what, thank you for your service and sacrifice. I value my freedoms everyday. I guarantee you every wounded guy out there, including myself; I mean that means a ton.