



**THE JACKSON JOURNAL**  
 Newsletter of the Jackson Michigan Optimist Club  
 Volume 5.11; January 19, 2012  
 Weekly meetings on Thursday, 12:15 pm, at the Optimist Ice Arena  
 1200 West North Street, Jackson MI; Call 517-783-2664 for information.  
 Check out our website; [www.optimistclubofjackson.org](http://www.optimistclubofjackson.org)  
 The Jackson Optimist Charitable Fund is a 501(c)3 organization  
 Text and text edits by Dave Carlson; Photo edits by Mickey Carlson.



Contact us at [mndcarlson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mndcarlson@sbcglobal.net)

**President Tom's challenge: "To talk health happiness and prosperity to every person you meet."**

Good meeting! Good attendance! Good Speaker! And, we enjoyed our "usual" great Lunch."

The meetings' highpoint was the induction of Keith "KC" Blair. KC's dad, the late Keith Sr., was a member in what Ray Hasbrouck usually refers to as the days of yore. KC is retired and does charitable work. We welcomed him as our newest member.

President Tom brought us our first speaker of the year. Dan Hoffman owns a business called Unique Ideas." He is, effectively, a chainsaw sculptor. The business was born out of necessity and hobby interest was turned into an occupation. He was laid off last year, so, he turned his skill and interests into his company, "Unique Ideas." Dan showed us some examples, actual and photographic, of his work. If you see sculpting of Indians along Falling Water Trail, they are Dan's work, and he sculpted the eagles that are at the Hankerd Hills Golf Course. Dan creates animals, people, signs, and furniture out of tree trunks and blocks of wood. Then there's a piece that could double as either a mantle place or a setting for a large flat screen TV. He works in pine, oak, and other soft and hardwoods. The most enduring works are made of oak. Everything he makes is on based on orders. The simple ones, signs and some furniture, come in at \$3.00 per foot. Oak is the most durable, but, he extends the life of all of his work with deck stains and urethane finishes. He is an artisan who uses Stihl chainsaws of the 8" and 16" varieties. If you are interested in any of the types of work mentioned, pet memorials, or, possibly a supersized Stanley Cup, Dan's your man.

**BY THE WAY:** Dan Hoffman and Ray Hasbrouck split the 50-50. Ray, in his usual "fine fettle," won the Loudmouth. John Knibloe won the Mummy.

**Happy Birthday:**

Arzo "Pete" Peterson: Jan. 1  
 Bob Vaira: Jan. 6  
 Phil Augustine: Jan. 22



**OUR SCHEDULE:**

Book a speaker, but, let me know ASAP. DC  
 May 12, 2012 Junior Golf Championship.

**Autumn Augustine's at the top of UM academic list.  
 Congrats.**



**Mmembers of the Club Board are as follows: Pres. Tom Mathes, Vice Presidents Dan Evans and Jack Tornga, Immediate Past Pres. Jason Coker, Treas. Don Trapp, Secretary Dave Carlson, 2 year Directors Tom Slater, Jon Greene, and Carol Sherman, and 1 year Directors Mickey Carlson, Denise Owen, and Alan Miltich.**