

## THE JACKSON JOURNAL

Newsletter of the Jackson Michigan Optimist Club  
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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**

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### President's Corner:

The Club Board, at the board meeting on March 2, approved membership requests of Dan Evans, Nancy Tuckey and James Shaw. All will be installed as new Club members at our regular meeting on Thursday March 11<sup>th</sup>. We are very pleased to welcome them. Also, that meeting is "Bring A Guest Day," challenging each member to bring a guest. We've increased our roster by adding 11 new members. My goal is 14 more, for a new member total of 25. We can do this if you're willing to reach out to potential volunteers. Economically, these are hard times, but, these are times when we can rise up to the challenges that are there. We can take the attitude, "That It Can't Be Done," or "we can just do it." Effort is worth everything. We owe it to the members who are no longer with us to keep our club as vital as possible. We owe it to the current members who have been members for more years than we can count, to continue to find ways to make our club grow. We have many activities coming up this year. We need your help. We have election of officers coming up. If you are willing to serve as an officer or committee member, please contact one of the officers. This month we celebrate the birthdays of Knobby Walsh, and Mickey Carlson, Denise Owens, and me. I admit it. I'll be a year older on March 15<sup>th</sup>. There's no sense in trying to slip that one by. Happy birthday! Knobby, Denise, and Mickey. May this be your best birthday ever!

AND REMEMBER

**"I Have Done So Much With So Little, For So Long,  
I Can Do Almost Anything With Nothing!"**



### WE CAN DO THIS - BE OPTIMISTIC!

Today, our speaker was Lynn Merrill of the Region 2 Department on Aging. He spoke of reading our Creed prior to the meeting and that he was impressed by it. Lynn started with the agency as a Care Manager and is now a Supervisor of Care Managers. The "aging" very often want only to be able to stay in their own homes, in familiar surroundings. Region 2, operates on a mix of state and federal funds, and attempts to do just that. They provide assistance in the form of advice, nursing, personal services and hygiene, home-making services (chores), home meals, care services, transportation, legal services, referrals, and care management. For members of the family, they provide means of respite. Taking care of an elderly member of the family, particularly one who is infirm, can be physically and emotionally taxing. The members providing care need a break and the Agency helps them as well. The Agency will also get seniors jobs, routinely placing them in the libraries, WalMart,

and other operations. This helps give seniors a sense of self worth. They provide assessment by Registered Nurses and Social Workers, and provide advocacy for services, follow-up, and monitoring. We can all help by considering seniors in our daily planning. We can suggest referrals, we can contact local representatives, such as the office of civil rights or its' ombudsman. Most seniors do not, knowingly, want to burden anyone. These services tend to make them as self sufficient as they can possibly be, living on their own. Lynn has been with the Agency for 12 years. He finds the work rewarding, and it gives him a great sense of fulfillment. Lynn is an excellent advocate, and we appreciate his having spoken to us.

### COMING UP:

On March 26 and 27, The Arena will host "Ice Kart Racing." It's not 24 hours at Le Mans; it is a team endurance race, indoors and on ice. Mark that date on your calendar. Contact Don Trapp for details.



\*\*\*Speakers and events\*\*\*

**March 9: Charitable Fund Board Meeting/Arena Conf. Rm.**

**March 11: Brian D. Philson, President, Highfields and Installations of new members**

**March 18: Judith Jove, Executive Director, Family Service, Children's Aid**

**March 25: Dian Breining, LPC, Counseling Psychologist, Dove Counseling**

**March 27 Go Kart racing on ice at the Arena**

**April 1: Hans Stahl, BioGreen Technologies**

**April 8: Keri Keck, Executive Director, Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse**

**April 15: Danielle Johnson, Family Advocate, Aware Shelter of Jackson**

**April 17: Service Club Fair booth**

**May 6: Respect for Law Program.**

**June: 18, 19, and 20 Battle of the Bands and a hockey tournament at the Arena.**

**June 10: Junior Golf Tourney at Arbor Hills.**

### Birthdays in March

Knobby Walsh	03-05
Bob Inman	03-15
Mickey Carlson	03-29
Denise M Owens	03-?



### By The Way:

Jonathon Green and John Knibloe shared the 50-50. Ray Hasbrouck was awarded the Loud Mouth and Jonathon Green-the Mummy.

### Trivia

Answers to the last quiz: a-tennis, b-boxing filmed by Edison, c-Stockholm in 1912.