Lawrence Breakfast Optimist Newsletter

For Tuesday, September 15, 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LBO will no longer "*sell*" Christmas Trees:
At the Saturday meeting the committee discussed prices and ordered trees. This year LBO will no longer *sell* trees but will provide trees to people for a donation. By asking for a donation and not *selling* the trees LBO will not have to pay sales tax which accounts for about $2,000.

International Walk to School Day
Wednesday, October 7th is International Walk to School Day. A bike safety check will take place at New York school that morning. If you are interested in volunteering contact Bob Burkhart.

Dictionaries
Dictionaries are ordered and should arrive in a few weeks. LBO ordered 982 dictionaries.
Members are encouraged to volunteer for distributing the dictionaries. The dictionary project is a hands on view of the true impact that LBO makes in the lives of youth.
Kaw Valley Bank has sponsored the Eudora dictionaries, if you know of a bank that would be interested in sponsoring the dictionaries, please let Tom Mach know as soon as possible.

Pancake Feed
It's that time of year again!! For those of you with businesses to call please continue to make contact and ask for auction items. For those of you who donated last year you will be receiving a letter in the mail reminding you of dates.
The auction has grown to account for 40% of the Pancake Feed profits.

GUESTS

LBO welcomed the following guests.

Nancy Reiling (Cliff)

THE PROGRAM

Today's program was provided by Keith Wood, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Douglas County. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides mentoring matches for at risk children. Volunteers are matched with "Littles" in order to provide a role model, one on one attention and to create a friendship. Each volunteer is carefully screened and undergoes numerous background checks.
Big Brother Big Sisters of Douglas County was founded in 1989 and their first match took place in 1991 between Big Brother Brett Fuller and Little Brother Jake. Brett and Jake continue to maintain contact to this day.
Big Brother Big Sisters offers a variety of volunteer opportunities. The community based program is a traditional one on one mentoring relationship that meets weekly throughout the year. Couples and families can also volunteer as Bigs through the Community Based program. Bigs in Schools is a site based program in which the Big and Little meet at the school for 30-60 minutes per week. Bigs in Schools is not just tutoring but a friendship relationship.
Last year Big Brothers Big Sisters served 500 kids and currently has 375 active matches.
The cost to make and maintain a match is approximately $800 per year. Two-thirds of Big Brother Big Sisters funding is private donations and fundraisers, 12% United Way and 20% state and private grants.
How can you help?
Those interested in helping can 1) volunteer to be a Big, 2) make a contribution, 3) help identify resources BBBS may not know about, and 4) tell others about Big Brother Big Sisters.
For more information on how you can get involved visit www.mentoringmagic.org or contact the office at (785) 843-7359

Big Brothers Big Sisters

And the Winner is.....
Handshake- Nancy Reiling
Basket- Jim Rumsey

Invite a friend, co-worker or spouse to breakfast!!

Don't Forget to Sign up!
The Annual Banquet, Meeting and Officer Installation
Friday, October 2nd @ Maceli's (1031 N.H.)
6:30-7:00pm Social Half Hour
7:00-8:00pm Meal
8:00-9:00pm Officer Installation
$27.50 per person

Next week's program:
Jack Ford
Post Doctorate in Chemical Engineering, Kansas University

If there is something you would like to see added to the newsletter or have suggestions please contact Erika Zimmerman at ezimmerman@sunflower.com or (785) 423-1864.