

August, 2009 edition

T.H.A.N.K.S. Inc.

Tailgaters Helping Aid Needy Kids' Spirits

President: Tim Russeau **Vice President:** Brian Trombley **Treasurer:** Steve Bolster **Secretary:** Heidi Bolster
Trustee: Harold Russeau **Trustee:** Jon Madden **Trustee:** Melanie Davis

9th Annual Dinner Dance

Our 9th Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, November 7th. As in previous years, it will be held at the F.O.P. Hall on Strasburg Rd. Tickets are limited so we suggest getting your tickets in advance to guarantee your seat. Ticket prices are \$35.00 per person, or \$65.00 per couple. (Ages 60 and over the cost is \$25.00 per person.) The cost includes your dinner, pop, water, two alcoholic drinks (additional alcoholic drinks can be purchased for a \$1.50 donation), entertainment, and snacks throughout the night. Dinner consists of Prime Rib and Chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetables, roll, and a full arrangement of desserts.

Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with access to a full-service salad bar. Dinner will be served from 6:00 – 8:00, followed by dancing by T.V.'s DJ and karaoke from 8:00 – midnight. It is guaranteed to be a good time. Please call our office to reserve your tickets today. Remember...tickets are not guaranteed at the door.

If there is anybody interested in donating a dessert for the event please contact our office. We have always had a great response in the past, and as always, it is greatly appreciated.



Comedy for a Cure

T.H.A.N.K.S. will once again be holding a Comedy for a Cure event in conjunction with Ambassador Hall in Monroe. The date is Saturday, October 3rd. The cost is \$35 per person and includes a seven course buffet dinner, open bar, and entertainment. For those of you who were there last year, you know how much fun this event is. It's a great way to relax, and just have a laugh. Please contact our office for more information.



Love and Time

Once upon a time, there was an island where all the feelings lived: Happiness, Sadness, Knowledge, and all of the others, including Love. One day it was announced to the feelings that the island would sink, so all constructed boats and left. Except for Love.

Love was the only one who stayed. Love wanted to hold out until the last possible moment.

When the island had almost sunk, Love decided to ask for help.

Richness was passing by Love in a grand boat. Love said, "Richness, can you take me with you?" Richness answered, "No, I can't. There is a lot of gold and silver in my boat. There is no place here for you."

Love decided to ask Vanity who was also passing by in a beautiful vessel. "Vanity, please help me!" "I can't help you, Love. You are all wet and might damage my boat," Vanity answered.

Sadness was close by so Love asked, "Sadness, let me go with you." "Oh...Love, I am so sad that I need to be by myself!"

Happiness passed by Love, too, but she was so happy that she did not even hear when Love called her.

Suddenly, there was a voice, "Come, Love, I will take you." It was an elder. So blessed and overjoyed, Love even forgot to ask the elder where they were going. When they arrived at dry land, the elder went on her way.

Realizing how much was owed the elder, Love asked Knowledge, another elder, "Who helped me?" "It was Time," Knowledge answered. "Time?" asked Love. "But why did Time help me?" Knowledge smiled with deep wisdom and answered, "Because only Time is capable of understanding how valuable Love is."

Golf Outing Update

What a beautiful day! Mother Nature was extremely kind to us this year. The weather was nice...it wasn't too hot, but the sun was shining, there was a wonderful breeze, and we all had a great time. There were a record-breaking amount of teams who came out to play 18 holes and enjoy a delicious steak dinner. Thank you to all the volunteers who came out and worked all day to make this event a success. Thanks to Green Meadows and their staff for doing a terrific job (as usual) to accommodate us. A special thanks goes out to Dana & Brian Reicker from Tim Hortons for supplying our volunteers and golfers with a wide arrangement of breakfast goodies. Thank you to all our hole sponsors and to Jon

Madden for once again organizing this event, and making it such a huge success. Congratulations to all our winners.



2010 Winterfest

I can't believe that we have made it to this point, but we are in the planning stages of our **TENTH** Annual Winterfest!! The dates for our 2010 Winterfest will be Friday, February 12 – Sunday, February 14. I know it seems a long ways away...but in reality it's not...6 months and counting!! It takes a lot of hard work and preparation for this event to run. We will need plenty of volunteers, donations, and raffle prizes. If you can help in any of these areas, please contact our office. Please look for more info to follow as more details are worked out.

If you have any suggestions for our 2010 event, please contact us. We are always looking for ways to make things better.

Christmas in Ida Parade

It won't be long now and a group of people will be start working on the float for this years' Christmas in Ida Parade. Working on the float is always a good time. We are currently looking for more volunteers to help out with the float for the 2009 parade. You don't even have to have any "skills"! Just come ready to work, and enjoy having a good time, and you'll fit in just fine.



Good Karma

-Take into account that great love and great achievement involve great risk.

-When you lose...don't lose the lesson.

-Follow the three R's: Respect for self, Respect for others, and Responsibility for all your actions.

-Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.

-Know the rules so you know how to break them properly.

-Don't let a little dispute injure a great relationship.

-When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.

-Spend some time alone every day.

-Open your arms to change, but don't give up your values.

-Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

-Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and look back, you'll be able to enjoy it a second time.

-A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life.

-In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation. Don't bring up the past.

-Share your knowledge. It is a way to achieve immortality.

-Be gentle with the earth.

-Once a year, go some place you've never been before.

-Remember the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.

-Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.

-Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

Rummage & Bake Sale

Even with our economy in the state it's in, we had a really good turnout for our third rummage and bake sale. Thanks to everybody who donated their items for our cause. Thank goodness for all the volunteers who came out to help set up the week leading up to the event. We never would have been ready on Saturday morning if it hadn't been for them. Thank you to everybody who baked for us! We had such a great assortment of baked goods this year...it was a HUGE hit! Our concession stand also did very well again this year. Thanks again to everybody who came out to support us.

Fun Run

On August 16th the Gold Wing Rode Riders Association (G.W.R.R.A.) Chapter C of Monroe had their annual Fun Run. The ride was held at Waterloo Park. This is the 4th year in a row that the Gold Wings have graciously chosen our organization to donate their profits to. They have really come to be huge supporters of our organization. You can always tell when they walk into an event... (with their matching blue shirts), we are THRILLED to call this group of riders our friends. We truly appreciate every single dollar we get, and we're sure the families that we support feel the same way. Thanks again!



Special Thanks & Well Wishes

-Well wishes go out to **Ethan Eberhart & family**. We continue to pray for continued good health for Ethan.

-Well wishes go out to **Megan Fricke & family**. It has been a year and a half since Megan's last treatment...we will pray for continued good health for her.

-Well wishes go out to **Jared Foland & family**. We continue to pray that Jared will continue to flourish.

-Well wishes go out to **Noah Martin & family**. Noah received his last treatment 14 months ago...we pray that he will continue his good health.

-Well wishes go out to **Cody Fairchild & family**. Cody recently enjoyed playing soccer this summer. We pray for continued good health for him.

-Well Wishes go out to **Troy Winkelman & family**. Troy is still undergoing treatments, and we pray that he will continue to grow stronger.

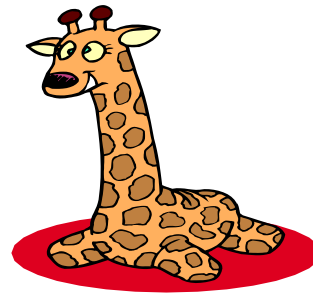
As always there are so many people to thank, and while we hope we don't forget anybody IF we did just know that we truly appreciate your dedication to our organization.

Thank you to *Green Meadows Golf Course* for all their work helping us with our golf outing. Thank you to *all our volunteers* who came out to run a betting hole, take money, cook hotdogs, sell beer, set up for the dinner, clean up, and any other misc. item that you could have helped with. Thank you to *We Haul Refuse* for bringing out the dumpster during our Rummage Sale and cleaning up the HUGE mess that was left for them. Thank you to *everybody* who donated a baked good, and who came out to set up, clean up, or purchase something from our Rummage Sale. Thank you to the *Ida Volunteer Fire Dept.* for always standing behind us. Finally thank you for the MANY, MANY supporters of our organization. We are **NOTHING** without you.



Stuffed Animal Drive

The past several years we've asked for donations, and you've always come through for us. However, we are still accepting donations of stuffed animals to be given out during the Christmas in Ida parade in December. We ask that animals be in good condition (no rips or tears), and free from any stains. Call our office to arrange a drop off.



MY View

As I sit here with less than a week left until I start school again...and less than 3 weeks left before the kids start back to school, I can't help but wonder...WHERE IN THE HECK DID SUMMER GO!? It seems like I've accomplished so much and nothing at the same time. Here are a few lessons I've learned from my summer.

First...if my house isn't clean, but I've gotten to spend some quality time with my kids and husband...who cares? At the end of the day it's the memories we build that really matter...the cleanliness of my house doesn't.

Make sure the choices you make are made for the right reasons. Don't let others influence your thoughts, beliefs, or compromise your integrity. At the end of the day, YOU have to live with your choices, so make sure you know what you're getting into.

If you tell somebody you're going to do something...DO IT! Unless there is a good reason you can't, don't go back on your word. Chances are somebody was (or is) counting on you to do something. Don't let them down.

Sometimes we don't always see it, but every cloud has a silver lining. When things get overwhelming and seem hopeless, take it one day at a time. Things WILL get better.

There is absolutely nothing better than listening to children laugh. No matter how grumpy I am, or what kind of day I've had...I will start to giggle when my kids laugh. Laughter is infectious...pass it on.

Don't sweat the small stuff. It's a waste of time and energy. It is what it is.

Tell those you love how much they mean to you...and do it often. Make memories that will last a lifetime. Besides...we don't remember days...we remember moments.

- Heidi Bolster



Happiness is not something ready made.

It comes from your own actions.

-Dalai Lama



When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left, and could say, "I used everything you gave me".

-Erma Bombeck



How to contact us

There are several ways to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns. Our office phone number is **734-269-6071**. Our E-mail address is **thanks_incorp@hotmail.com**. Our web page address is **www.thanksinc.com**. Our mailing and shipping address is **1207 W. Albain Rd. Monroe, MI 48161**. Please feel free to contact us any time.