



The Southern Exposure

Indiana South District - Optimist International

Volume 28, Issue 4

July 2023

2022-2023

"Better Together"

Kent Reyling, Governor

Mike Novak, Immediate Past Governor

Bill Cherolis, Past Governor

Greg Kuhn, Governor Elect

Rick France, Secretary-Treasurer

Lt. Governors

Zone 1- **Walt Willms**, Indy Bft

Zone 2- **Merrill Smith**, Greensburg

Zone 3- **Jack Nichols**, Mill Creek

Zone 4- **Mark Wilson**, Ryves Community

Zone 5- **Charlie Schladand**, Jeffersonville

Zone 6- **Stan Stewart**, Jasper

Zone 7- **Bill Cherolis**, Santa Claus

Attention:

Committee Chairs & Lt Governors

The *deadline* for submitting
articles for the next District
Bulletin is **October 2,**

2023. Send your articles to
p_grant@fastmail.fm if you have
e-mail. If you prefer, send it
snail-mail: 770 N County Road
625 E, Avon, IN 46123.

DON'T FORGET!

A message from Kent, your 2022-23
Indiana South District Governor

**IMPORTANT...we need the help of ALL
Clubs**

A KEY focus of the day will be on the sharing of
successful activities of your club. Your chance
to boast about what you really do well (project,
program, events) ...anything that you want to
share with other clubs in the district to help us
all be "Better Together". ALL CLUBS are
requested to put together information to share
with other clubs in a round table format at 2
different times on Sat. (11:00 and 1:45). This
will be a highly interactive discussion and we
**encourage multiple members of your Club to
be present** to participate in presenting AND in
seeing what other clubs have to offer.

**We are asking each Club in the District to
submit what you plan to cover.**

Below is the format for your consideration to
submit your topic and prepare to share.

Please send to Kent Reyling
pkreyling@outlook.com by July 22.

Title of activity: (can be a project, event, fund
raising, membership recruitment...whatever
you are proud of)

Discussion leader: (club member who will
lead the discussion for your Club)

Goal and purpose of the activity: (why is this
something that your Club has focused on?)

Benefits to the Community:

Benefits to your Club:

Any outside organizations assisting or coordinating with your Club:

Important details to know about: (Budget, time and manpower, publicity, and promotion)

Best, Kent YOUR 2022-23 Optimist International District Governor

I AM AN OPTIMIST...
TO GIVE BACK
TO HONOR YOUTH
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
TO MEET NEW PEOPLE
TO LEARN NEW SKILLS
TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS

Kelly Schaefer was a keynote speaker at the recent Optimist International Convention in Arlington VA (Washington DC area) on July 4 and received several standing ovations and accolades. We are fortunate to have her bring her message of Hope to our Indiana South District Optimist Convention with a presentation during our noon Luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 12. You don't want to miss this.

Kelly Schaefer

Luncheon Presentation, August 12, 2023



Her book, "Fractured not Broken," is the true story of loss, faith, and a rare love that only happens in nonfiction. The Amazon Bestseller has won the New Apple Spirit Award and the Inspirational Award, and Schaefer's story has been featured on ESPN and in *Rosie* magazine. She will have copies of her book available for sale at the convention.

In 1998, Schaefer – then a cheerleader for the Indiana University Hoosiers – won national cheerleading awards. However, her life took a tragic turn when a drunk driver left her quadriplegic in 1999.

Schaefer lost her athletic ability, but not her spirit, and she has since traveled to hundreds of Midwest schools to share her story, demonstrating how the human spirit, combined with personal faith and

the support of loved ones, can overcome challenges and enable others to succeed beyond their wildest imagination.

Schaefer says she feels blessed that her story can inspire others.



Kelly Schaeffer with her family Emmy, Sam and Shaun along with friends from Jasper...Paula & Kent Reyling and family, daughters Audra Schue (with grandkids Ella and Quinten) and Michelle Schnell (with grandkids Maeve and Maddie) after her outstanding keynote presentation at the Optimist International Convention on July 4 in Arlington, VA.



Indiana South District
Annual Convention (4th Quarter Conference)
Friday & Saturday, August 11-12, 2023

Terre Haute Convention Center
800 Wabash Avenue
“Sharing and Celebrating Optimism”



“Better

Together”

The Indiana South District Optimist 2023-24 Convention (4th Quarter Conference) is being held at the impressive Terre Haute Convention Center in Terre Haute, IN. The conference will be focused on the success of our CLUBS in our “Better Together” year and “Sharing and Celebrating Optimism” for the future! The convention starts with activities on Friday, but the primary activity is on Saturday (7:30 am – 5:00 pm EDT) with the 2022-23 Celebration Banquet at 6:00 PM where awards will be made and new District leadership for the 2023-24 year will be installed.

Agenda Overview

Friday, Aug. 11

Optional Tours (no charge...free will offering)

1:00 Candles Holocaust Museum <https://candlesholocaustmuseum.org/>

2:30 Ryves Community Center (Ryves Optimist Club focus) <https://www.archindy.org/cc/ryves/>

4:00 Veteran’s Museum veteransmuseumofterrehaute.com

4:00 Joint Executive Committee (Reyling and Kuhn District Leadership Teams) Terre Haute Convention Center

5:30 Informal Dinner at The Terminal (820 Wabash...next door www.terminal812.com)

7:30 Convention 1st General Session and District Board Meeting (for all Club Officers and members)

7:30 Hospitality Suite (Hilton Garden Inn)

Saturday, Aug. 12

7:00 Past Governors Association (PGA) meeting (*for governors only*)

7:30 Old/Timers/New Timers Breakfast (presentation by Julie Robison, OI VP)

9:15 General Session (OI Care Presentation and Encouragement for future)

11:00 Breakout Sessions (Club leaders training and Club Sharing for members)

12:00 Luncheon Meeting (multiple presenters on multiple topics)

1:45 Year in Review and Club displays / sharing round tables

3:30 Convention 2nd General Session and memorial service

5:00 Social Hour and Hospitality Suite (Hilton Garden Inn)

6:00 2023 Celebration Dinner (awards presentations, IS leaders installation and remarks on current and future year)

7:30 Conclusion of formal activities (*continue celebration on our own or head for home...*)

Message from Governor Kent...



Hello Fellow Indiana South District Optimists,

I have been honored to have served as your Governor for the 2022-23 year. I have enjoyed our other 3 conferences this year and my visits to clubs which has allowed me to meet many more Optimists in our Indiana South District. Even though I have been involved in Optimists for many years, I have learned a LOT about the great things that your Clubs are doing, along with the opportunities we all have. It is with this perspective that we have decided to do a different format for our 4th Qtr. conference (convention) and are going to focus on YOU and your CLUBS!

We are asking for EVERY CLUB to have at least one-member attend and are encouraging MULTIPLE MEMBERS to attend and share the Project, Event and/or Activity that stands out for your club (what you are most proud of or have been most successful with). For our “Better Together” year wrap-up we want to recognize your accomplishments but most importantly SHARE your success with other Clubs. Please encourage as many members as possible from your club to attend and share/meet with others.

We are also privileged to have with us the Vice-President of the Middle America Region, Julie Robison from Elkhart, IN. who attended our 1st Qtr. meeting and has great insights from Clubs in our Region and from Optimist International. Further reinforcement of our “Better Together” year. Please be there together with us!

Kent Reyling, Governor, Indiana South District Optimists 2022-23 year

A KEY focus of the day will be on the sharing of successful activities of your club. Your chance to boast about what you really do well (project, program, events...anything that you want to share with other clubs in the district to help us all be “Better Together”. ALL CLUBS are requested to put together information to share with other clubs in a round table format at 2 different times on Sat. (11:00 and 1:45). This will be a highly interactive discussion.

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Goal and purpose of the activity: (why is this something that your Club has focused on?)

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Benefits to your Club:

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Important details to know about: (Budget, time and manpower, publicity, and promotion)

Message from Governor-Elect Greg:



Fellow Optimists of the Indiana South District, I look forward to sharing my goals for next year with you. Every day we have an opportunity to Live the Creed and make our optimism come true. It is exciting to see the difference each club can make in our local communities. Ideally, you have been rewarded by seeing the difference you have made. While it is the role of District and Club leadership to plan, organize and promote club projects, ultimately club members are needed to chair events and run projects. That leads to my theme and my heartfelt request – “be the one.” If you have not experienced the joy and motivational power of a successful Optimist event, let next year be the year. District team members are here to support your club to be successful in community projects. Every member has the potential to step up and “be the one” to launch or reinvigorate a project. Our headquarters facilitate several projects such as essay, oratorical, CCDH, junior golf and Tristar, and further clubs have the autonomy to pursue their own projects - each club can succeed at these if someone decides to “be the one”.

As you may know I completed governor training earlier this year in St. Louis. The most important piece of equipment I was issued was a cowbell. I will be bringing this cowbell to our meetings, and you will all be encouraged to come forward to ring the bell whenever we make a bold step forward or slaughter a sacred cow.

See you soon.

Greg Kuhn, Governor Elect, Indiana South District Optimists 2023-24 year

Message from Middle America Regional Vice President Julie...



Hello Indiana South District Optimists,

Summertime is here, and it's time for family vacations, grilling outdoors, for making connections in our communities and for building relationships with our fellow Optimist. While attending events this summer, take time to promote our wonderful organization. "Just Invite" them to your upcoming project(s), recognition of community members or scholarship recipients. The passion you convey for your club's activities helps create an interest in what we are all about. We are "Better Together" so utilize every opportunity to promote who we are and what we do.

I'm looking forward to attending your District's Convention this August! I'll be sharing information on the 4th Quarter Membership Contest. It's going to officially kick off on July 1st at the Optimist International Convention by President Bob Mcfadyen. It will be a great opportunity for clubs to add members with an opportunity to add dollars to their bank account! For now, I'll leave you with, get ready to start your engines!!! See you on August 11-12 in Terre Haute! Believe, Inspire and Make an Impact,

Julie Robison, VP Middle America Region, Optimist International 2022-23 year

REGISTRATION FORM

Complete form below and mail (please print neatly)

Member name #1 _____ Name for badge: _____
 Club name: _____ Zone _____
 Club office held? _____ District office? _____
Member name #2 _____ Name for badge: _____
 Club name: _____ Zone _____
 Club office held? _____ District office? _____
Non-Member Name _____ Name for badge: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION *(person submitting registration)*

email address: _____ Phone: _____
 Street _____ City: _____ State: _____

DON'T DELAY

** Deadline for hotel reservations group rate is July 10 (see below) and meal selections is Friday, Aug. 4*

CONVENTION FUNCTIONS REQUIRE A RESERVATION (Please choose your options)	Cost each	# of people	Total \$
REQUIRED Registration fee (\$5.00 per attendee)	\$5.00		
7:30 – 9:00 AM Old/Timer / New Timer Breakfast (Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Hickory Smoked Bacon, Breakfast Potatoes, Buttermilk biscuits with jams, coffee & orange juice.	\$20.00		
12:00 – 1:30 Luncheon Meeting (all served with dessert and iced tea) <i>Choose below</i>			
• Caesar Chicken Salad (Fresh Chopped Romaine, Grilled Chicken, Grape Tomatoes, Red Onion, Garlic Croutons, Shredded Parmesan Cheese, Caesar Dressing, Dinner Rolls, and Butter.	\$20.00		
• Smoked Club Sandwich (French Sub Roll with Baked Ham, Smoked Turkey, Hickory Smoked Bacon, Provolone Cheese, Tomatoes, and Leaf Lettuce. Served with Potato Salad.	\$20.00		
6:00 – 7:30 PM 2022-23 Celebration Banquet (all served with House Garden Salad, Balsamic Vinaigrette or Ranch Dressing, Dinner Rolls, and Butter. Roasted Red Potatoes, Ginger Baby Carrots, Tuxedo Cake, Iced Tea.) <i>Choose below</i>			
• Almond Crusted Chicken (Crispy Chicken Breast with Blistered Tomato)	\$33.00		
• Pork Tenderloin (Herb Roasted Pork Tenderloin, Cracked Peppercorn Sauce, Balsamic Glaze Drizzle)	\$33.00		
COMPLETE CONVENTION PACKAGE OFFER (Registration and all 3 meals) SAVINGS of \$13 <i>Indicate your meal choices above</i>	\$65.00		
TOTAL (make check payable to "Indiana South District Optimists")			

Register online here: <https://mp.gg/htrcx>

REGISTRATION FORM & REMITTANCE

Please return by": Aug. 4

Indiana South District Registrar

Attention: Dave Osborne

1189 Pinewood Drive

Plainfield, IN 46168

C (317) 538-4548 indsoptimist@gmail.com

Hilton Garden Inn group rate \$159 deadline, July 10:

(For those traveling in Friday or staying over Saturday.)

Note: the meeting is primarily Saturday, but there are activities on Friday afternoon/evening (see the agenda on the next page)

Hotel Reservations: [Indiana South District Optimist \(hilton.com\)](https://hilton.com)

Plainfield Optimist Club



Had a great weekend at Plainfield's All Star Shootout! All the teams played great! A big congrats to our winners and runner ups:

8u: Champions North Putnam

Runner ups Plainfield Blue

10u: Champions North Putnam

Runner ups Brownsburg

12u: Champions Plainfield

Runner ups Brownsburg

Terre Haute Breakfast Optimist Club



The Terre Haute Junior Police Academy took center stage on July 13th as Holly Curtsinger's daughter Piper told the club all about her fantastic experiences at the annual event. Holly also talked about Indiana State University's Early Childhood Education Center. Holly is the director of the center.

Terre Haute Breakfast Club new member install



Tom was welcomed into the club at yesterday morning's meeting. Pictured with Tom (left) is his sponsor Ken. Past president Mike performed the installation on 07-06-2023.



Optimist Club of Jasper

🇺🇸 Flags are flying high for the 4th of July!! 🇺🇸

Look at these hard-working volunteers! We could NOT do this without you! 🙌🏻

Thank you —Larry, Jim, Marilyn, Les, Barb, John, Mary Carolyn — who, by the way are pictured wearing the newly designed Avenue of Flags “Crew Member” shirts! 🎉 Also pictured with them is one of the newly branded Avenue of Flags signs. 🇺🇸

New shirts- keeping volunteers safe and an updated look to our signs. A big thank you to the marketing team! Another hard-working team putting up flags in the Brookstone neighborhood area —Grayson Pryor, Matt Pryor, Hudson Stemle, Flag Captain: John Goebel 🎉

🇺🇸 Happy 4th of July weekend 🇺🇸 [#AvenueOfFlags](#)



More Jasper Pictures



Jasper Scholarship Recipients



Indy Downtown Club

Indy Downtown sponsored a night out at the **Indy Indians baseball game** on June 20th. Bob Brafford told me he sold 84 tickets. Featured in the back in one photo is my son Matthew waving and holding his daughter Audrey Rose with older daughter Katelyn Margaret in the blue sweatshirt.



I met folks or saw shirts representing Indy Downtown, Sunrise, Greensburg and Clay County Club. It was a fun evening.

Also, in addition to the 84 tickets sold, we had our member, Jeannie Casmir Hill, and 35 more from the East 10th Street Children and Youth Center decide to come at the last minute, so we really had a total of 120.

It was a very successful event. This is a combination of a social outing and a small fund raiser and it went very well.

Terre Haute Regional Golf Tournament

The Terre Haute Regional Golf Tournament was held July 6th at Rea Park in Terre Haute. We had 48 registered players. 42 of them showed up to play. One was a straight 'no show' and the other five had very valid reasons such as broken ankles, broken wrist, injured toe, grandfather had a stroke, etc.

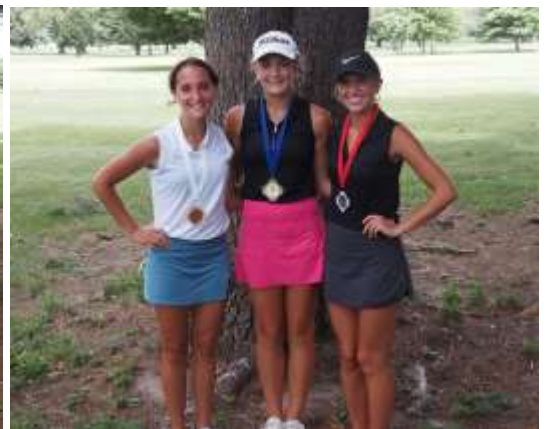
We had players in 5 Age Groups - there were no girls in the 10-12 or 13-14 divisions who signed up to play. The Divisions were very competitive at the top except for 14-15 Boys in which we had a dominant winner. The course still suffered from last week's storm damage but the greens were hard and fast. It was about 84°F and partly sunny. A great day for golf. It all went well and the day was a success. This was a Zone 4 Event. We are **BETTER TOGETHER!!**

Mark Wilson did a good job of encouraging all of the clubs to support this tournament. His success was evident in the support we received.

We had cash donations from Clinton & Ryves Members and Club donations from Clay County and TH Breakfast. We had the food donated by a Noon Member.

At the tournament, we had volunteers from Ryves (Mark Wilson who cajoled parents about joining the Optimist - photo with brochures in hand is available, Clinton (Doc Sutherlin who served as our starter), Dave Shields and someone I don't know from Breakfast Club who served as our photographer and course marshal on the 8th hole and several from Clay County (Monica Wallace & son ran the drink cart, brother John Tribble had the toughest job signing in the kids, giving them scorecards, rebating the \$10 and giving them golf balls, Dick Boyce who served as Marshal on the 4th hole, and myself representing both Clay and Noon Optimists) and Bob Waelbroeck of Noon who arrived late and helped us clean up.

Also, Dave Shields was great talking to parents and players while I was recording scores. He was very interested in their school and golf plans and made everyone feel valued.



More Terre Haute Regional Golf Tournament pictures



**If you can't fly then run, if you
can't run then walk, if you
can't walk then crawl, but
whatever you do you have to
keep moving forward.**

“

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Clay County Optimist Club Conducts Health & Hygiene Item Drive for Clay County Schools

During the month of June several area churches collected Health & Hygiene items on behalf of the Clay County Optimist Club's Health & Hygiene Drive.

This drive is to provide a variety of health promoting items to the Clay Community School Nurses in each of the county's public elementary, middle and high schools.

Member Brook Reinoehl, pastor at McKinley Hill Christian Church, led the efforts among the counties' many churches to serve as depositories for donations made by members and the general public.

On June 25th, members went to the various churches to collect the donated items and gathered at McKinley Hill Christian Church to prepare packets for each of the seven elementary schools plus North Clay Middle School, Clay City Jr/Sr High School and Northview High School.

Under the direction of Head Nurse Amber Sindors, the volunteer Optimist members created age appropriate packets for each school. These packets will provide an ample supply to individual school nurses to meet the needs of students in each school as those needs emerge during the upcoming school year.

On behalf of the Clay County Optimist Club and the children of Clay County we wish to thank those churches that generously gave of their time and treasure to support this drive.

The Clay County Optimist Club is part of Optimist International which has as its slogan "Friend of Youth". If you would like to learn more about the activities of the local Optimist Club and what it takes to join our efforts to improve the quality of life of the children of Clay County, contact Jim Tribble at "tribble.jim@gmail.com" for more information.

Clay County Optimist Club Completes Health & Hygiene Drive



Members Monica Wallace, Dodie Scherb and Judy Tribble plus Head Nurse Amber Sindors (left to right) behind a table of health & hygiene items.



Optimists Judy Tribble & Monica Wallace sort soaps & washes



Optimist Members Judy Tribble and Monica Wallace sort contributions from the various churches.

Hello fellow Optimist,

As we enter the fourth quarter of this Optimist year, our membership is sitting at a net -2,000, right where it has been the last few years.

But why should you care about the membership in Optimist International? You joined your local club to look after the needs of the children in your community. Not Optimist International.

So why should you care? In order for Optimist International to be down in membership, it means that clubs just like yours, and maybe even your own club, are not replacing the members they are losing. That is putting a heavier burden on the members remaining in the club but also decreasing the resources we have in our clubs to address the needs of the children in our communities. If we continue along this trajectory, in 10 to 15 years, Optimist International will not have enough clubs or members to be able to sustain an international headquarters.

What would that mean to you as an Optimist in your local club?

1. No umbrella liability insurance coverage – every club would have to find their own liability coverage
2. No Foundations – meaning no scholarship programs or grants for clubs
3. No website or Optimist Institute – no training or information to support members and club executives
4. No support structure – no zones, no districts, no trained leaders to help your clubs
5. No conventions or zone meetings – no opportunities to meet other Optimists and share ideas
6. No community recognition of the name, Optimist International

Although you joined your local clubs to assist the youth in your community, the decline of Optimist International will have an impact on you, your club and your community.

But it doesn't have to be this way. Just think, if every club, ON AVERAGE, was net +1 in membership over the next three months, we would be close to breaking even with our overall net membership for Optimist International.

If strengthening your club to protect the Optimist legacy in your community and continue to help the children in your community is not motivation enough, Optimist International is offering a 4th quarter membership incentive that should be exciting for all clubs. No matter the size of your club, you will have an opportunity to win significant cash prizes that you will be able to put towards your club projects. There will be awards for the top 3 clubs in two categories. The total number of new members added and the highest percentage of new members added. \$1,000 for 1st place, \$750 for 2nd place and \$500 for 3rd place. And for all of the clubs that do not make it to be one of the top three, there will be two additional, random draws of \$300 from all of the clubs that registered to be part of this program AND added at least one member during the 4th quarter. **Correction of June "Just 3 Things". The top three clubs in each category in all of Optimist International (NOT IN EACH DISTRICT – as stated in my June message) will get the monetary awards.**

But there are parameters around this program. In order to participate:

- Clubs must proactively “opt-in” to be part of the program [click here](#) to access the form.
- Clubs in the running for prizes must have their 1st quarter dues payment, including all of the new members added, paid to Optimist International by October 31st.
- Clubs must also maintain and pay for these members through the 2nd quarter of the 2023-24 Optimist year.
- We will track all new members added during the 4th quarter in each club and you will get updates in my monthly emails and other head office communications.
- Finalist clubs will be announced the beginning of November.
- Payment of prize money will be sent to clubs in February 2024.

We need you to be adding members, not numbers. People committed to the mission of our great organization, people just like you!

Let’s work together to strengthen our clubs to ensure continued service to the youth in our communities for decades to come. If each of us focused on our own club, the accumulated growth in all of our clubs would result in overall growth and strengthening of our organization.

Thank you for being Optimists and thank you for making a positive difference in the lives of the children in your community. Let’s work together to ensure we are here for decades to come.

*Our greatest weakness lies in giving up.
The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.
-- Thomas A. Edison*

Yours in Optimism,

Bob McFadyen
2022-23 President



In Remembrance

Remembering David Wischmann

Former BOCI President and Governor of the Indiana South District who recently passed away. A wonderful man, husband and father. RIP friend.



Richard L. Posson

December 20, 1946 – July 2, 2023

Current Breakfast Club member and former Downtown Club member, Rick has been writing The Bugle for many years. He died on July 2, 2023.

Jim D. Arnold

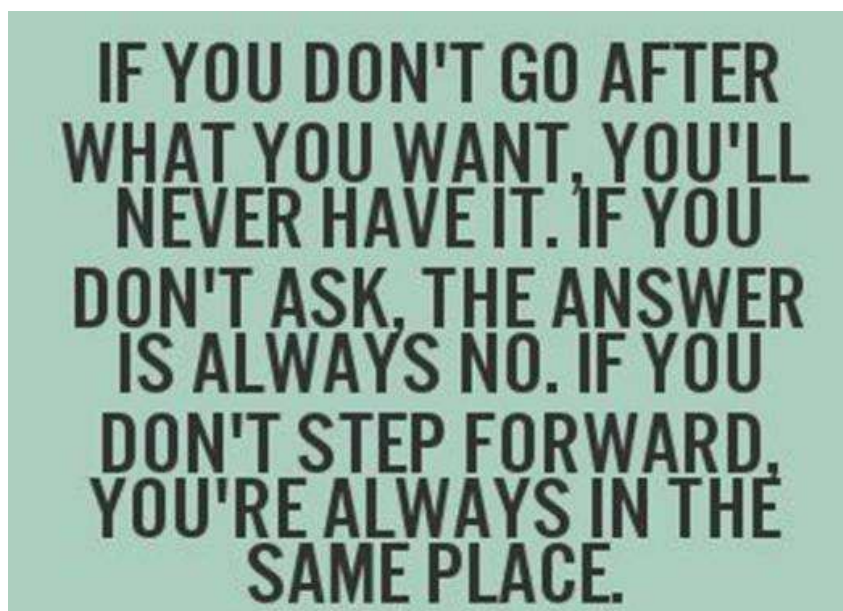


May 3, 1938 ~ July 1, 2023 (age 85)

Jim became a dedicated volunteer in the Mill Creek area serving with the Belleville Little League, **Mill Creek Optimists and Optimist International**, Cartersburg Fish Fry and Cascade High School Athletic Booster Club. Jim was a past District-Secretary.

David Best

Distinguished and loyal club member David Best died on June 29th at the age of 95. We will all remember David for his speaking skills, ability to bring history to life, and being a dedicated Optimist.



Contact an OI Department:

Optimist International is committed to providing professional and prompt service to Optimist volunteers and other interested parties. If you know which department you wish to contact, please check the e-mail list below.

You may also speak to a staff member in that department by calling (314) 371-6000 or (800) 500-8130 and requesting the extension listed next to each department. To speak to someone in the Optimist International Canada office, please call (514) 593-4401 or (800) 363-7151.

Awards	261	awards@optimist.org
LMS/Optimist Institute	210	
Communications/Social Media	236	communications@optimist.org
Executive Director	200	executiveoffice@optimist.org
Finance & Administration	202	finance@optimist.org
International Convention	205	convention@optimist.org
International Office	300	headquarters@optimist.org
International Programs	218	programs@optimist.org
Junior Optimist	218	youthclubs@optimist.org
Leadership / Personal Development	261	leadership@optimist.org
Marketing & Graphics	236	marketing@optimist.org
Member Services	247	clubservices@optimist.org
Membership	227	membership@optimist.org
New Club Building	227	newclub@optimist.org
Optimist Junior Golf	218	golf@optimist.org
Webmaster	209	webmaster@optimist.org
Canadian Service Centre	(800) 353.7151	CanadianService@optimist.org
Canadian Supplies	(800) 555.7062; www.optimistsupply.ca	info@optipromo.ca
Optimist Supply (US)	(800) 223.2203; www.shumsky.com	

Contacting Optimist Leaders:

To contact an International leader by e-mail, use their firstname.lastname followed by @optimistmail.org. For example - Cheryl Brenn: cheryl.brenn@optimist.org

**YOU DON'T HAVE
TO BE GREAT TO START,
BUT YOU HAVE TO
START TO BE GREAT**
- zig zagler

**You cannot hang out with
negative people and expect
to live a positive life.**

Hello fellow Optimists,

Let's talk about what new members mean to a Club. By new members, I mean people who are interested in our mission, in bringing out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves. I mean people like you.

Why did YOU decide to get involved? What is your Club doing that keeps you coming back? Have you invited someone to a Club event so they can find their own reason to get involved?

The youth in our communities need us more today than ever before! If you have any doubt about that, reach out to your local elementary school and ask about the number of students that attend school without the proper nutrition, supplies or winter clothing. Just imagine the difference we could make by supporting those students to be their best, setting the very foundation for their entire future!

As we continue to shrink in membership, so does our support and service to the youth in our communities. In the end, it is the children that are suffering from our inability (or unwillingness?) to *just invite* someone to share our love and passion for our organization.

Fellow Optimists, everything that happens in our organization happens at the Club level, through you, our Members. All we can do as your international leaders is provide you with information, motivation and, sometimes, a little incentive.

To that end, the Membership Committee has come up with a new incentive for the third quarter: "Lighting the Fuse on Your Optimist Rocket."

A New Member Incentive

Beginning April 1, 2023, recruiting new Optimists can earn you rewards!

The Member from each Region who recruits the most new Members between April 1 and June 30 will receive a \$100 gift card. The winners' names will also be placed in a drawing for free registration to the International Convention in Arlington, Virginia.

A second-place winner from each Region will receive a \$75 gift card and be entered into a drawing for a ticket to the President's Banquet at the Convention, while a third-place winner from each Region will receive a \$50 gift card and be entered into a drawing for a ticket to the Heritage Brunch.

Since the drawings will take place after everyone has registered for the convention, the winners will have their money refunded. The tickets are also transferable, so if you choose not to attend one of the best conventions in years, you may sell or donate them to someone else.

Members aren't the only ones up for rewards; Districts are also in the running. The District that adds the most new Members and the District with the largest percentage of new Members will each have their Governor and a partner seated at the head table during the President's Banquet.

But we don't just want to get numbers up to give out rewards. We want – we need – more people like YOU!

As a group of strong, committed individuals, we can control and create an organization to continue to serve children and our communities for another 100 years!



Bob McFadyen, 2022-2023 President

OI Foundation

Dime-A-Day Level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.



The **Diamond Level** requires a minimum donation to the Foundation of \$100 annually and the donor receives a specially designed postcard and thank you message from the Foundation President, Debra Merritt.

Women's Philanthropy Council (WPC) was formed in 2005 to support the work of the Optimist International Foundation. Members reach out to women as donors and assist in shaping their philanthropy. All donations raised through the giving circle of the **WPC** will be used to underwrite World Oratorical Championship scholarships for young women that win the Regional Contest from the US and in the Caribbean. It is important to note that your contribution to OIF designated to support the efforts of the **WPC** will be counted as a **restricted** donation and will not be credited to your annual giving or that of your District/Club. It will count towards lifetime giving.

Join the **Presidents Club** by making an initial unrestricted gift of \$250, and renew your membership each year by making an annual \$250 contribution. When you join, you will receive a prestigious Presidents Club lapel pin. Each year at the International Convention, you will be recognized with a ribbon for your badge and will be invited to attend a function exclusively for members.



Friends of Today make a minimum unrestricted donation of \$500 annually to the Foundation. Donors will receive a special plaque designed by a local St. Louis artist.

The **Christian D. Larson Partners** was adopted to recognize donors who contribute a one-time \$1,000 unrestricted gift. *Donors may combine multiple unrestricted gifts in one Optimist fiscal year to achieve the \$1,000 level. **Partners** will receive a plaque presented by the DFR.

To become a member of the **William H. Harrison Society**, donors must have a life-to-date of \$10,000 and contribute \$1,000 annually to the Foundation. Members will be invited to attend a recognition dinner with the Foundations' Boards of Directors at the International Convention. Members also receive a ribbon noting their Membership in Society to be worn with Convention badge.

IN HONOR - IN MEMORY- VETERAN BANNER EMBLEM

Contribution and Request Form

To receive your Club's Honor / Memorial / Veterans Banner Emblem and embroidered name bar of the individual, please fill out the form below and send it in with your \$100 donation. For subsequent \$100 gifts recognizing other individuals, embroidered banner emblems will be sent upon request.



HEARTS UNITED IN OPTIMISM

THIS YEAR'S CLUB BANNER PATCH



**By donating today, your Club
can join others in the mission to
'Help Optimists Help Kids!'**

WHEN YOUR CLUB DONATES \$365
UNRESTRICTED OR \$1 A DAY, YOUR CLUB
WILL RECEIVE A CLUB BANNER PATCH!

2022-23 OIF Theme- HEARTS UNITED IN OPTIMISM

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION - VISION STATEMENT

The Optimist International Foundation was established on February 28, 1971.

The creators envisioned a Foundation that could provide significant funding for OI's youth and service programs and which would be proudly supported by individual Optimists, their Clubs, and the community at large.

WHAT OIF DOES FOR CLUBS AND DISTRICTS

- \$5,000 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE CCDHH CONTEST
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST
- \$5,000 FOR THE REGIONAL WORLD ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNERS FOR NON-CANADIAN WINNERS

WHAT OIF DOES FOR CLUBS

- \$15,000 FOR THE WORLD ORATORICAL CHAMPION, \$10,000 FOR 2ND PLACE AND \$5,000 FOR 3RD PLACE FOR NON-CANADIAN WINNERS
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST
- Club Pass Through:
- If your Optimist Club is seeking grant funds or contributions for funding of your charitable community service projects or other charitable, literary or educational programs, you may request the assistance of Optimist International Foundation (OIF) as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This program is only available in the United States. Please find the Club Pass Through Grant Program guidelines document on the Foundation website at: oifoundation.org.

WHAT OIF DOES FOR OTHER OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

- CONTRIBUTES \$85,000 TO SUPPORT THE JOI PROGRAM
- CONTRIBUTES TO THE JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
F O U N D A T I O N

Presidents Club

The Presidents Club is a giving level that recognizes Optimists who are truly committed to the mission of the Foundation and its work to support Optimist International. By becoming a member of the Presidents Club, you are doing much more than giving a gift to change a child's life; you are making a statement that you are dedicated to the future of Optimism.

Become a member of the Presidents Club today and show your support as a steadfast Optimist and devoted friend to the Foundation. Optimist International Foundation works to raise funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International, its Clubs and its Members. The Foundation needs donors like you to continue 'Helping Optimists Help Kids'.

Join the Presidents Club by making an initial unrestricted gift of \$250, and renew your membership each year by making an annual \$250 contribution. When you join, you will receive a prestigious Presidents Club lapel pin. Each year at the International Convention, you will be recognized with a ribbon for your badge and will be invited to attend a function exclusively for members.

Join the Presidents Club by making an initial unrestricted gift of \$250, and renew your membership each year by making an annual \$250 contribution. When you join, you will receive a prestigious Presidents Club lapel pin. Each year at the International Convention, you will be recognized with a ribbon for your badge and will be invited to attend a function exclusively for members.

Become part of an exclusive group that is
committed to making a difference.

I want to join the Presidents Club!

Name (one person only) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Enclosed is my check made out to the Optimist International Foundation.

_____ Please deduct \$ _____ from my account monthly for _____ years. (Enclosed is my voided check)

Bank Name _____

Account # _____ Routing # _____

_____ Please charge my credit card \$ _____ per month for _____ years.

☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Account # _____ Exp. _____ / _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Presidents Club • PO Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195-2126



Rewards for New Member Recruitment

Beginning April 1, 2023, recruiting new Optimists can earn you rewards!

The Member from each Region who recruits the most new Members between April 1 and June 30 will receive a \$100 gift card. The winners' names will also be placed in a drawing for free registration to the International Convention in Arlington, Virginia.

A second-place winner from each Region will receive a \$75 gift card and be entered into a drawing for a ticket to the President's Banquet at the Convention, while a third-place winner from each Region will receive a \$50 gift card and be entered into a drawing for a ticket to the Heritage Brunch.

Members aren't the only ones up for rewards; Districts are also in the running. The District that adds the most new Members and the District with the largest percentage of new Members will each have their Governor and a partner seated at the head table during the President's Banquet.

Indiana South District Conferences for 2022-23 Year

4th Quarter – Friday night and Saturday August 11-12 – Annual Convention/Training – Terre Haute Convention Center and Hilton Garden Inn, downtown Terre Haute

The Optimist Club of the Year

The Optimist Club of the Year is the highest achievement an Optimist Club can attain in the Optimist organization. The recipient of this prestigious award will be chosen regardless of number of members, or region and will be known as the “Best Overall Club” in Optimist International.

The Optimist Club of the year award is presented annually to the most outstanding Club in the organization based on the following criteria:



	Maximum Points
Service projects sponsored by the Club	30 points
Member Development Programs a year (<i>i.e. PGI Program, Optimist International Conventions and Summit, etc.</i>)	25 points
Club Growth and Increased Community Awareness Campaigns (<i>i.e. NOW Program, Marketing Campaign, etc.</i>)	25 points
Increased Volunteer Member Base	10 points
New Community Efforts	10 points

Points in each category will be awarded by independent judges based upon community outreach, impact on children and Members, new and innovative ideas; and benefits to the individual Club Members.

Interested Clubs are invited to submit information as outlined on the [judging form](#). Clubs can submit any materials they chose as the items relate to the specified criteria.

The Club named Overall Optimist Club of the Year will receive one round-trip airline ticket to the Optimist Convention, a banner patch, an award, and a special article in The Optimist magazine and on the Optimist website.

Submissions: Submit the judging form and back up documentation to Leadership@optimist.org . **In the email subject line include:** Club of the Year Judging Form, Club's full name, and Club Number.

2022-2023 Scholarship

Optimist International sponsors three scholarship contests for students to earn money to pursue opportunities in higher education: The Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH), the Essay Contest and the Oratorical Contest. The contests are conducted at the Club level, then Zone and Regional (if necessary) and at the District level. District-level scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundations and awarded by Optimist International.



We understand the importance of protecting your Optimist Club and the children you serve. IntelliCorp has partnered with Optimist International to ensure Optimist Clubs receive comprehensive and validated screening services at the lowest possible cost.

Optimist Background Check Package

The following cost-effective screening package has been created to simplify your background check process. The package uses a combination of multiple sources of criminal record information. In addition, we validate database records by returning to the source to ensure that we have the latest updates regarding your applicant's history.

Package Pricing: \$13.86

Includes:

- Validated Criminal Database
 - Validated Nationwide Sex Offender
 - Validated Department of Corrections
- Unlimited Single County Searches (7 year address history)*
- SSN Verification w/Address History
- Government Sanctions (Terrorist Search)

Notes:

*Some courts charge a mandatory fee. These are treated as pass-through fees to our clients and are clearly highlighted before processing the search.

Package Add-Ons

- Motor Vehicle Reports
- Employment Verifications
- Education Verifications
- Drug Testing
- Federal Criminal Searches
- Civil Searches
- I9/E-Verify
- Credit Reports



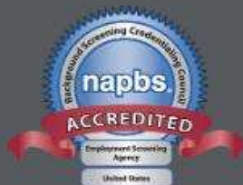
Program Benefits:

- Preferred pricing
- Criminal product validation
- Compliance information/online sample forms
- Personalized customer support
- System & product training sessions
- Secure online report ordering & retrieval

Please Note: Information and preferential pricing provided for U.S. Clubs only. Canadian Clubs should contact IntelliCorp for more information.

Sign-Up Today:

Click [here](#) and complete the first page of the registration process.



Contact:

Mike Terrell
800-539-3717 x157
mterrell@intellincorp.net
www.intellincorp.net

Club Presidents: Please make copies of this Bulletin and distribute to the members of your club.

Useful Web Links

Optimist International Structure & Services:

http://www.optimistleaders.org/LeadershipInfo/ClubInfo/ClubAnswerBook/OI_Structure_&_Services.pdf

Club Organizational Model:

http://www.optimistleaders.org/TeachingMaterials/OfficerTraining/Club_Organization_Model.pdf

Optimist International Foundation:

The Optimist International Foundation is a 501C3 organization whose purpose is to receive and manage funds exclusively for the charitable, literary, or educational purposes of OI and its member clubs. See website link: <http://oifoundation.org/about-us/>

Official Optimist International Supplier: Shumsky www.OptimistStuff.com



Attention ALL Club Presidents

Presidents of all Clubs in the District serve as members of the District Board of Directors. Make sure to attend your Board meeting at every District Conference and at the Convention.

Update Member Information

To ensure each Optimist Member is receiving valuable information from Optimist International, encourage each Member to update their contact information with a leader in your Club. This includes addresses, email addresses and phone numbers. Each leader (Club President, Secretary, and/or Treasurer) has a log-in for Optimist Leaders to update the Members' information.