



The Southern Exposure

Indiana South District – Optimist International

Volume 29, Issue 2

January 2024

2023-2024

Greg Kuhn, Governor

Kent Reyling, Immediate Past Governor

Mike Novak, Past Governor

Walt Willms, Governor Elect

Rick France, Secretary-Treasurer

Lt. Governors

Zone 1- **Glen Shay**

Zone 2- **Merrill Smith, Greensburg**

Zone 3- **Andy Tice, Plainfield**

Zone 4- **Don Wilson**

Zone 5- **Patti Scott**

Zone 6- **Melissa Eckert**

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

Attention:

**Committee Chairs & Lt
Governors**

The deadline for submitting articles for the next District Bulletin is May 20, 2024. 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!

Greetings all Indiana South District Optimists

Greetings Optimists! While Optimism is a year-round conviction for all of us, many of us are about to enter our busy season.

Essay and Oratorical contests as well as Tristar basketball skills competition will be ramping up soon.

Our revamped Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will also take place before the end of spring.

If your club needs help with any of the contests, please consult your District Chair or Lieutenant Governor, we are here to help your club with its contests.

Ron Fuhrman is the District Oratorical Chair, Betsy Burke is the District Essay Chair and I am the CCDHH Chair. If your club is not having a contest, please help in other ways.

Please find a club that is having contests and refer participants to that club. You can volunteer to help other clubs too.

Sharing Optimism through service is its own reward.

All the best in 2024!

Sincerely,

Greg Kuhn, Governor,

2023-2024 Indiana South Governor

Indiana South District 2nd Quarter Conference

Friday and Saturday January 19 and 20

Holiday Inn Bloomington-University Area
1710 N Kinser Pike, Bloomington, Indiana

Register online through <https://mp.gg/hy4pet18> or complete form below and mail (Please print neatly or type)

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: _____

Conference Functions Require a Reservation

	Price	Number	Amount
Registration Fee per Household (living in the same house)	\$5.00	<u>1</u>	<u>\$5.00</u>
Lunch (per person) (Chicken and Noodles, Pork Roast w gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Dinner Rolls Brownie bites and Choc. Chip Cookies includes Unsweet and Sweet tea and Water)	\$20.00	_____	_____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (Must Accompany This Form)

\$ _____

**Deadline for lunch choice is Monday January 15, 2024. After that date lunch will be "on your own".*

REGISTRATION FORM & REMITTANCE

Must be received by: **January 15,**
2024

Indiana South District Registrar
Attention: Dave Osborne
1189 Pinewood Drive
Plainfield, IN 46168
C (317) 538-4548
indsoptimist@gmail.com

Hotel Accommodation

Holiday Inn Bloomington University Area
1710 North Kinser Pike
Bloomington IN 47404 - 812-334-3252
Breakfast Included
BLOCK CODE: ISD

Agenda Overview (Saturday, January 20, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST):

8:00- 9:00 Registration and Past Governors Breakfast

9:00- 9:30 Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions, Governor's

Remarks

9:30-10:30 Attorney Estate Planning Presentation via Zoom

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:15 Foundation Report and Follow-up (Mike and Greg)

11:15-12:00 District meeting – By Law updates

12:00- 1:00 Lunch

1:00- 2:00 Training: A: New members (Kent); B. Officers' Forum (Rick)

2:00- 2:45 Committee Updates: CARE, Essay, Oratorical, TriStar, RFL, CCDHH, Jr. Golf

2:45- 3:00 Break

3:00- 3:30 Recognition and Awards

3:30- 4:00 Happy Dollars and Video

4:00 Sending and Optimist Creed

Message from the Governor ... Hello Fellow Optimists, I am pleased to inform you of our upcoming 2nd Quarter Indiana South District Conference. We are going to focus on some of the nuts and bolts of operating our clubs and the district. We want to provide new member orientation information and encourage new members to attend. Presidents and Lieutenant Governors can take back this training to new members who have not attended. We will also have a forum for Club President and Secretary Treasurer responsibilities. Committee updates for our many spring and summer activities will also be part of "nuts & bolts."

May you all have a meaningful holiday season with your loved ones! Live the Creed and give a smile to all and be too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Greg Kuhn, Indiana South District Optimists, 2023-2024

Indiana South District Conferences for 2023-24 Year

2nd Quarter – January 20, 2024 Bloomington

3rd Quarter – April 13, 2024 Jasper

CCDHH will be May 3, 2024 at the Indiana School for the Deaf

4th Quarter – Friday night and Saturday August 9-10, 2024 – Annual Convention/Training – TBA

Updating Your Club's Bylaws

Starting Oct. 1, every Club will be required to update their bylaws. OI will not accept paper copies, so Clubs will need to use the Optimist Leaders online portal to submit updates. There is a module on how to update your Club's bylaws on the [Optimist Institute website](#). Simply choose "Quick Reference Guides" on the left-hand side, scroll down to the third row of modules, and click "View" for the "Changing Club Bylaws Online" module.

Attention ALL Clubs

By this time, you should have started your Oratorical and Essay Contests. There's a lot of Scholarship money out there available to those contest winners. You should have your Club Oratorical Contest sometime in February. Deadline is the end of that month. Your winning Orator's entry should be sent to District Chair Ron Fuhrman or to designatee by March 1st.

Essays should be submitted to your Club for judging by January 31st. Your judging should be complete by the end of February and your winning Essay should be sent to District Chair Betsy Burke.

The District's Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) will be held in May and is open to entrants from all areas. CCDHH will be held May 3, 2024 at the Indiana School for the Deaf according to District Chair Greg Kuhn. Check with your school personal for a list of entrants who may participate in this contest.

If your club is NOT running these contests, please find a club that is and send your youth to that club's contest. A youth may participate in only one club contest. I know that my Club will accept a youth from any area that does not have a Club conducting a contest.

Oh, did I mention the Tri-star Basketball Contest. Well your club can conduct this contest and only takes a few hours. Check the OI site for the "How-to" information. The District Tri-star Contest will be held in March. Jack Nichols is the District Chair.

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	238	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) 353-1151	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

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.

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.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

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

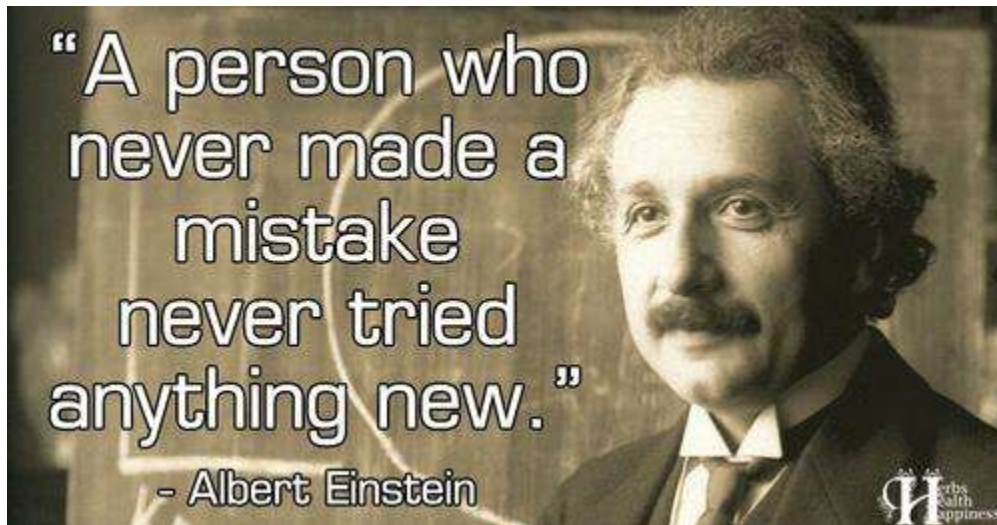
WHAT OIF DOES FOR CLUBS

- \$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



Quotes of Positivity

Contributed by past Governor of the Indiana North District and Marketing and Communications Committee Member Sandra Kay Doyle

“The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible.” — Winston Churchill

“Success is a state of mind. If you want success, start thinking of yourself as a success.” — Joyce Brothers

“Optimism is a happy magnet. If you stay positive, good things and good people will be drawn to you.” — Mary Lou Retton

“No matter how small you start, always dream big.” — Steven Richards

“Everywhere you go, take a smile with you.” — Sasha Azevedo

“Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson

“The flower that blooms in adversity is the rarest and most beautiful of all.” — Walt Disney

“When we seek to discover the best in others, we somehow bring out the best in ourselves.” — William Arthur Ward



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.

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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

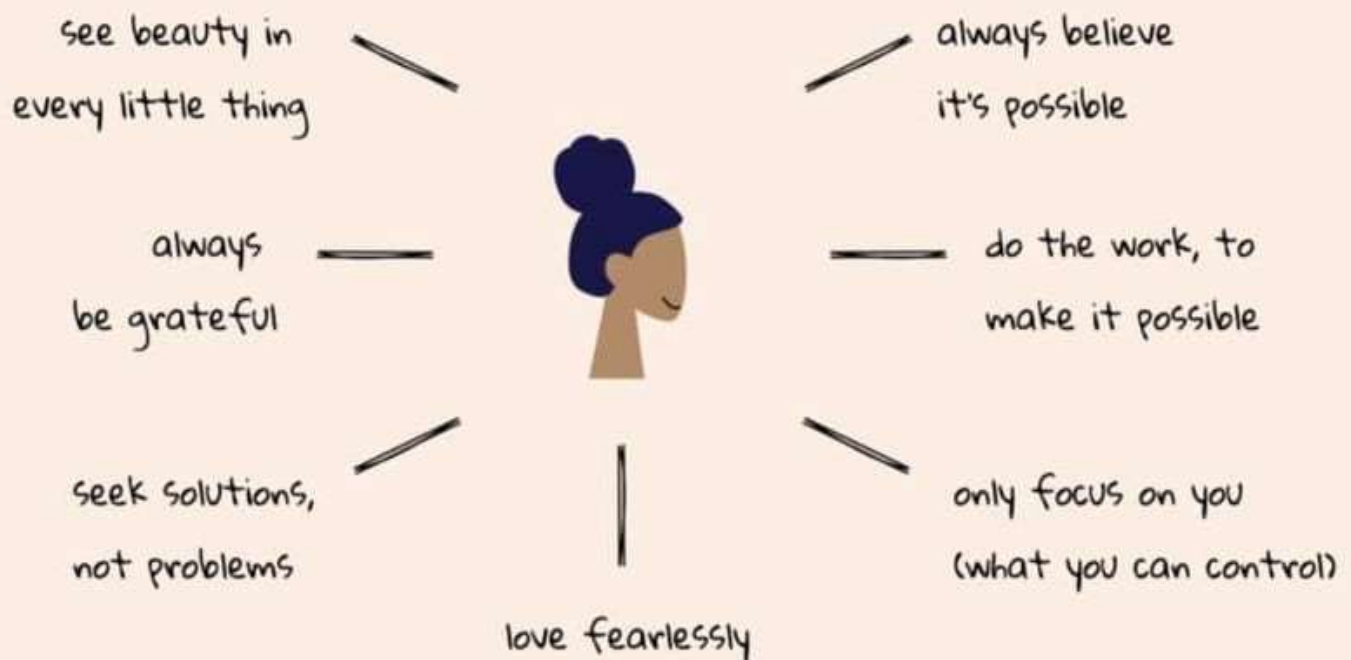
Update Member Information

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.

John Quincy Adams quote!!

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

How to become an Optimist



“

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

– Mark Twain

”



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.

[2023-2024 Scholarships](#)

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.

The Southern Exposure is published for all Optimists located in the Indiana South District, Optimist International. The editor is Paul R. Grant, 770 N County Road 625 E, Avon, IN 46123. Submissions may be sent to p_grant@fastmail.fm and are subject to extreme editing.