



**SPECIAL
POINTS
OF INTEREST**

Upcoming Activities

Indiana North Conference Schedule for 2022-2023 so you can mark your calendars now.

- **2nd Qtr: January 27-28 Virtual at this time.**
- **3rd Qtr: April 21-22 Ivy Tech campus, New Castle at the Steve Alford Inn.**
- **4th Qtr: August 11-12 at the Tippe River Downs Fairfield**

The Indiana North District



PTIMIST

District News

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

What are some of the projects that are funded by the foundation?

- ◇ \$5,000 per District for Oratorical contest.
- ◇ \$2,500 per District for Essay contest.
- ◇ \$17,012 last year for Club Grants
- ◇ Childhood & Wellness Grants
- ◇ Club Pass-through program
- ◇ Club campaign fund for Club projects. The money is held for the project until the Club has accumulated enough for their project and then returned to the Club paying 3½% interest. Last year, over \$225,000 went through the program
- ◇ JOI Clubs. \$85,000 is now ear-marked for this program
- ◇ All literature and pass-outs for Club use
- ◇ NO money from dues is used by the Foundation

Where does the money come from? Members through the Dime-A-Day campaign and Clubs form the Dollar-A-Day campaign. Donations such as the Women's Philanthropy fund raiser.

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**IF
OPPORTUNITY
DOESN'T
KNOCK,
BUILD A DOOR
FOR OPTIMISM**

OPTIMIST.ORG



**CHOOSE
OPTIMISM**

Gov. Max's Musings

Merry Christmas Optimist. Yes it tis the season for Optimist to shine. The holiday season brings out the best in our clubs. The caring and sharing by Optimist clubs is over the top. The amount of giving is phenomenal to say the least, children and families benefit from our efforts. From gifts for kids to meals for families the Optimist shine bright.

Well another month has come and gone and there is a lot of work to be done. December is a short month with all the holiday activities so club gatherings will be effected. We need to concentrate on our mission and continue to find ways to bring in new members and to make our clubs stronger.

If you have seen the Optimist Hot Line you will see that good things are coming from OI.

Most notably is that the club officer changes will be done ON LINE ONLY as well by laws changes will be on line with fill in the blank for all changes required by OI. Training for this is

on line and several dates are posted on optimist international web site. The dates are December 6 club officer change on line. December 7th, district officer on line, December 13th by laws change. If you have trouble with these changes contact your zones Lt. governor or OI. We will post the link to the web site in the news letter and web site.



Next district conference is coming up on January 28th and will be by zoom. If anyone has any ideas for the conference please let me

know. My e mail is max.jeep@comcast.net

I hope everyone has a wonderful and giving holiday. Merry Christmas to you all.

**Max and
Deb Soliday.**



Club Happenings

"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers. It would be terrible if we just skipped from September to November, wouldn't it?"

-Anne Shirley, in L.M. Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*

This lovely sentiment is decidedly applicable to the Rochester Optimist Club's 75 members and the community it serves. October is the #1 month for all things "pumpkins" and the Optimists of Rochester know their pumpkins. Their pumpkin project which features a pumpkin and fall décor stand in the center of town – is the club's largest fundraiser of the year, bringing in \$63,000 this year! 85 cents of each dollar collected through the pumpkin project goes back into the community.

Now in its twenty-third year, the pumpkin project –originated by longtime club member Jack Townsend – grows larger every year. For example, last year the club grew and sold over 50 different varieties of pumpkins, gourds, and squash. Cinderella, Porcelain Doll, Long Island Cheese, Baby Boo, Green Striped Cushaw, Sweetie Pie, and Jumpin' Jack are just a few of the delightfully named varieties that "wow" customers who visit the stand. Many customers are simply looking for the best carving pumpkins for their jack-o-lanterns, and the Rochester Optimists offer row upon row of classic orange beauties. Some customers are also looking to stock up on pretty things for their fall decorations including mums, Indian corn, and/or hand-crafted fall decorations. An increasingly popular option is our packages, a combination of pumpkins, gourds, cornstalks, and bales of straw, delivered to and arranged at any residence or commercial location by an Optimist member. "We also remove the display when requested," says Scott Zeyen, package delivery manager. This year the club sold 162 packages!

Although we associate October with pumpkins, Rochester's club members are hard at work months before to prepare for the BIG month. Seeds must be ordered and planted, fields fertilized, and weeds sprayed and pulled. Then the crops must be picked, washed, packed, and transported to the pumpkin stand. The pumpkin stand season begins in September and continues through October until the product runs out. The stand is located at 803 E. 9th St. in Rochester, IN 46975.

Some of the equipment used in the picking was custom designed by a club member and crops are planted in 10 acres of donated fields. Teresa Houser, who, along with Vicki Onstott runs the retail portion of the successful and fulfilling project, says, "Members also donate straw bales and chop thousands of corn stalks for fall displays." It's a team effort to get from the planning stages to stocking and running the stand. The very definition of a "labor of love."

In addition to raising funds for the Optimists, the pumpkin project also provides funds for various schools and other community groups such as Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, and Fulton County H.O.P.E. whose members help pick the pumpkin crops and/or staff the pumpkin stand in exchange for their organizations being paid for their labor. "They work hard," says Houser, "and the Optimists receive some much-needed assistance with the heavy lifting."

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The Rochester Optimist Club, supporting the community for more than 40 years, awards a variety of scholarships annually to local teens, maintains a Compassion Fund for unforeseen charitable needs in the community such as H.O.P.E. for the Homeless, and supports organizations financially such as CASA, the local Boy Scouts troops, Tri-Star basketball, the local soccer club, United Ministries, and youth league baseball. The club also supports Camp-We-Can (www.camp-we-can.com), a camp designed just for children and adults with special needs, and their caregivers.

Appreciating the fact that earnings are returned to the community, residents are loyal to the pumpkin project. "The community is fantastic," says Houser. "Their support is tremendous. Although other retail outlets sell pumpkins and mums, many people wait for our stand to open to purchase their fall decorations"

To learn more about the project visit the Club's Facebook at;

facebook.com/OptimistClubRochesterIN.

**Send your Club's photos & happenings to the District News Editor,
Jim Burk at: Jburk63@gmail.com**



**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

Dime-A-Day

Optimist International and Optimist International Foundation coexist as two separate organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International and its mission.

When Members and Clubs make a contribution to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with that gift, supporting Optimist International itself and themselves as a Club as well.

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

The 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.

Building a future where every kid counts
Can you spare a dime a day?

☐ Sign me up! Please accept my \$ _____ donation. (Enclose check, payable to Optimist International Foundation, referencing "Dime-A-Day" in the memo section.)

☐ Sign me up! Please accept my \$ _____ donation. Charge my ☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ American Express

Account # _____ Exp. ____/____ Signature: _____ Security Code _____

☐ Sign me up! Please deduct \$3.05 per month from my checking account.

Checking account number: _____ (Please include a copy of a voided check)

Name _____ Email _____

Club Number _____ Member Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Dime-A-Day Campaign • P.O. Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195



Hotline

Optimist International Leadership Publication



Save the Dates - Online Training Webinars

Learn How to
Enter and Change Club and District Officers
AND Create and Change Club Bylaws
Directly Online through Optimist Leaders

6:30 - 7:15 PM Central Time

December 6, 2022

How to Enter and Change Club Officers Online
[Click here to register!](#)

December 7, 2022

How to Enter and Change District Officers Online
[Click here to register!](#)

December 13, 2022

How to Create and Change Club Bylaws Online
[Click here to register!](#)

JUST 3-THINGS

with President Bob McFadyen



Happy Holidays! Joyeuses fêtes! Felices Fiestas! शुभ बिदाहरू James!

Tis the season of warm wishes, generosity and giving. It really can be a season that brings out the best in everyone.

As an Optimist it's easy to live that way year-round but the holiday season is a time to remember why we do what we do, and renew our commitment to bring out the best in children, our community and ourselves.

What better way to show you care than providing someone the opportunity to experience the benefits of being an Optimist by gifting a Membership. A gift that keeps on giving! Or join the "Dime-a-Day" ranks with a gift of \$36.50 to Optimist International Foundation, our Foundation. Just imagine what we could do for the youth with our scholarship and other programs if every Optimist donated at the "Dime-a-Day" level!

One thing in my heart is to take care of our young people. And by young I'm specifically thinking of elementary ages. Take the time to find an elementary school near you. Ask them what they need. Ask them how you and your Club can help them, help their children. Make their holiday season (and the entire year) everything they want and need.

It only takes a moment to ask, and your actions could impact more children than you think. For longer than you'd believe.

Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world.

— Malala Yousafzai, activist

And if one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world, imagine what a group of caring, dedicated Optimists can do?

Bob McFadyen
President, Optimist International

P.S. I'm starting a quarterly "[Chat with President Bob](#)" via Zoom. Our first one will be Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 p.m. (CST). It's an open forum for you to ask me questions, offer suggestions or insights and share your Optimist news. I hope to see you there! [Click here to register!](#)

District Events

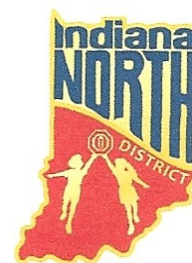


December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Chat with President Bob 6:30 CST	7  NATIONAL PEARL HARBOR Remembrance Day DECEMBER 7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21  Happy FIRST DAY OF Winter	22	23	24
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 



VISIT:
OPTIMIST.ORG
INDIANANORTHDISTRICT.ORG



INDIANA NORTH DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Governor-Max Soliday: Max.jeep@comcast.net
762-960-5857

Governor Elect- Chris Whitehead:
crw1@protonmail.com

Past Governor: Sandy Rodgers:
skbpuzzler@yahoo.com

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574-596-7072

District Treasurer: Jim Smith: Jim.smith06@yahoo.com
317-697-2521

Lt. Governors:

Zone 2: None

Zone 3: Yvonne
Southall

Zone 4: Karyn Gilly

Zone 5: Kathy Nelson

Zone 6: Rob Upchurch

Your Leadership Team for
Optimist Year 2022-2023

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"Like us" on
Face Book

Optimists are:
The Friend of Youth

*"I am an optimist.
It does not seem to
much use being
anything else"*

—Winston Churchill

Every Day is an Optimist Day
Supporting the Youth of Our Community

Optimist Mission

By providing hope and positive vision,
Optimists bring out the best in kids.

Optimist Vision

Optimist International will be recognized
worldwide as the premier volunteer
organization that values all
children and helps them develop to their
full potential.

Purposes of an Optimist Club

- To Develop optimism as a philosophy of life, utilizing the tenets of the of the Optimist Creed;
- To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
- To inspire respect for the law;
- To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
- To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of human kind, community life and the world.

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself

To be **SO STRONG** that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity
to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the **sunny side** of everything
and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to **work** only for the best and to
expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the **SUCCESS** of others
as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the
GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance **AT ALL TIMES** and give
every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have
NO TIME to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear,
and **too happy** to permit the presence of trouble.



Optimism is positive thinking lighted up.
Norman Vincent Peale