



SPECIAL
POINTS
OF INTEREST

This Month's Activities

Prepare for our Essay and Oratorical Contests. Select Contest chairs and get the information out to the schools.

Upcoming Events

The next District Meeting will be on November 4th. This will be a combination meeting with the Indiana South District in Plainfield IN.

This will be a unique opportunity to build new relationships with fellow Optimists.

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The Indiana North District



OPTIMIST

District News

First Quarter Meeting

The first quarter meeting for the new Optimist Year will be very unique. We will be meeting on November 4th in Plainfield, IN, along with the Indiana South District.

This opportunity to meet with our fellow Optimist from the South should be not only fun, but also informative.

We will also have as our luncheon speaker, Mike Boles, OI Vice President. There will be many opportunities to learn about several OI programs available to us this year.

Time is short to get signed-up, so DO IT NOW! See insert for sign-up information.

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

OPTIMIST.ORG



**CHOOSE
OPTIMISM**

Gov. Chris Connection

Happy Optimist New Year! My name is Chris Whitehead, and it's my honor to serve as your IN North Governor for the 2023-24 year. Besides me, and by way of Hawaiian family heritage, my wife Missy, along with Coco the cat, are here to wish you much Aloha and welcome you to our Optimist Ohana ("family").

We are all Optimists who belong to our own local club. As many of you know, our membership numbers as a service organization are declining. We have been focused solely on growth, to the detriment of not paying attention to the members we have. Our membership trends reflect initial growth, then decline, then growth, then decline. The problem is that the declines are outnumbering the growth. Regardless of the district, or region, incentives offered, or awards earned, these trends have held over the past 10 years. It's up to us Optimists who know we belong, to help our newer Optimists feel a sense of belonging, and to encourage them to become Optimists with a Capital O. We need to welcome, listen, and learn from them. I can't stress this enough.

If you've visited Hawaii, when you landed, a person may have placed a lei around your neck at the airport to tell you that you are now a part of the Ohana. You are now a part of the family. The Ancient Hawaiians quickly understood that the people of Hawaii had to live in harmony with nature in order to survive. With limited resources, it was important to instill a code of conduct that would promote unity. Aloha and Ohana are not just ancient spiritual ideas. They are instructions for survival. And you don't have to be family to be accepted into

someone's Ohana. The word is imbued with loyalty, support, compassion, and love. It is a great honor to be a part of an Ohana, and it means that you'll never be forgotten or left behind. But Ohana extends much further than family. It also means home. After all, a family needs a home. To be a part of an Ohana means to protect that home. Our families, including our Optimist families, give us a sense of belonging.

Okay Chris, that sounds great about Ohana. What do I do next? Great question! Mark your calendars for November 4. We're extending our Optimist Ohana with a combined Indiana North and South district meeting for the 1st quarter. As a way of honoring our Optimist home – you will receive welcome leis at the 1st quarter meeting.

Between now and then – Think about, how do you tell your Optimist story? We say it frequently enough that for most of us, it's just like breathing, we don't think about it. Let's use the power of telling story to create pathways for others who may just be learning about Optimists, and in so doing, create our own Ohana. As we listen and learn from our Optimist friends, we can say – You matter. You Belong.



Chris & Missy Whitehead

Gov. Chris

An update on the membership incentive and honor club 22-2023

Fellow optimist as most of you were aware the district had a membership incentive program for the last quarter of my year. From July 1 to September 30 anyone who sponsored a new member gets a 20 -dollar reward from the district. You brought in 45 new members in the 4th quarter, that is great. I also had an incentive for the club that finished with the most members over their October 1, 2022, numbers. Lapel added 16 members so they will receive the 2-sided flag from the district.

I want to congratulate West Jay, Portland Evening and Chesterfield for doing everything right finishing the year as" "HONOR CLUBS" . Way to go on doing optimism right. Thanks to all for a great year.

Max Soliday,
Past Governor

Club Happenings



From the Warsaw Breakfast Club

Jim Smith was the recipient of the “Pillar of the Community” award

Joe Thallemer received the first ever “John Elliott Buckeye Award”

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

INDIANA OPTIMIST CLUBS

Night with the Indy Fuel

Fuel vs. Komets



Saturday, December 30th, 2023

@ Indiana Farmers Coliseum

Puck Drop 7pm | Doors Open 6pm

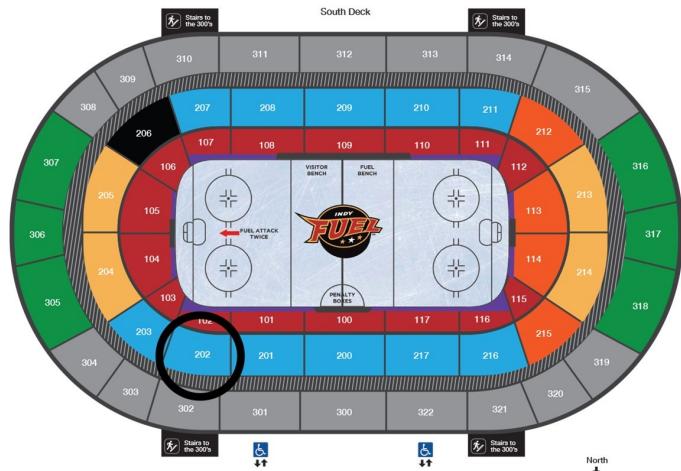


TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS, VISIT:

<https://fuel.isportstix.com/order/group/Optimists1230/>

ORDER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 30, 2023 at 12 PM

TICKETS ARE LIMITED AND SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY



PLATINUM \$35

Seats will be located in Section 202

Optimist International



The 2024 Optimist Visual Arts Contest Calendar – a yearly calendar of art and optimism!

Do you want to support young artists and spread optimism?

Are you looking for a unique and meaningful gift for the holidays?

Do you want to raise money for your Club?

This special calendar features original artwork from 12 young artists who participated in the 2023 Optimist Visual Arts Contest. Open to children 11 and younger, the contest asked artists to express their positive outlook on life through original drawings or paintings.

The calendars are sold in packs of 10, and we encourage Clubs to buy as many as you can and sell them at a markup to raise money for the community projects you care about.





Indiana South District Indiana North District
 Joint 1st Quarter Conference
 Saturday, November 4, 2023

Richard A. Carlucci Recreation & Aquatic Center
 651 Vestal Road, Plainfield, IN 46168
 Staybridge Suites
 Indianapolis Airport (NOT the *Holiday Inn* Exp)



"Be the One"

This 1st Quarter Conference is being held at the Richard A. Carlucci Recreation & Aquatic Center at 651 Vestal Road, Plainfield, IN. This affords us a centrally located venue at no cost to the district. This conference will focus on member retention, working with schools, and planned-giving. We want you to "be the one" to make a difference. We will also hear from our Optimist International Vice President Mike Boles. The conference is only on Saturday (9:00 - 4:00 EDT). Group Breakfast (on your own) Saturday Morning, 7:00 a.m., Stacks Pancake House and Grill, 6011 Gateway Dr., Plainfield, IN 46168.

6295 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168

Register <https://mp.gq/gffc8z7> or complete form below and mail (Please print neatly or type)

Member name #1

Name on badge: _____

Club name:

To Reserve a Zone _____

Club office held? _____

District office? _____

Member name #2,

Name for badge: _____

Club name:

Room-please Zone _____

Club office held? _____

District office?

Non-Member Name

Name for badge: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION (person submitting registration)

email address: _____ Phone: _____

Conference Functions Require a Reservation

Price Number Amount

Registration Fee

\$7.00 _____

Lunch (per person)

\$18.00 _____

(Smoked Pork BBQ, Grilled Chicken, Mac and Cheese, green Beans, Corn Casserole, dessert)

Group Breakfast on your own

AMOUNT DUE (Must Accompany This Form)

\$----

*Deadline Saturday, Oct. 29.

REGISTRATION FORM & REMITTANCE

Must be received by: October 29, 2022

Indiana South District Registrar

Attention: Dave Osborne

1189 Pinewood Drive

Plainfield, IN 46168

C (317) 538-4548

dwomedic@gmail.com

Hotel Recommendations (if traveling in early or leaving later)

Note: the meeting is Saturday only, see message on 2nd page.

Staybridge Suites Indianapolis Airport (NOT the *Holiday Inn* Exp) 6295 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168

To Reserve a Room-please

email jsmith@dorahq.com

code OPT. Room Block closes October 20th

Agenda Overview (Saturday, Nov. 4, 2023, 9:00 - 4:00 Eastern time):

Optimist International
Indiana South District and Indiana North District Joint Meeting
Richard Carlucci Recreation Center
651 Vestal Road, Plainfield, IN 46168

Start End

9:00 9:30 Welcome, Pledge, Invocation, Remarks

9:30 10:15 Guest Speaker- Explorador

10:15 10:45 South District Business Meeting - North Break

10:45 11:15 North District Business Meeting - South Break

11:15 12:00 CARES Update

12:00 1:00 Lunch Remarks by Mike Boles, 01 VP

1:00 1:45 Guest Speaker - Planned Giving and QCD Presentation

1:45 2:30 Committee Updates

Golf, CCDHH, Essay, RFL, Oratorical

2:30 3:00 OWLS Update

3:00 3:15 Break

3:15 3:30 Foundation Report

3:30 3:45 Mike Boles, 01 VP

3:45 4:15 Awards and Recognition

Scholarship Contest Info. for 2023-2024

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONTESTS 2023-2024



Topic
"How to Change the World
with Optimism"

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Beginning in 1928, the Oratorical Contest has become the longest-running program of Optimist International. The contest is designed for young people to gain experience in public speaking and provide them with an opportunity to compete for multiple college scholarships with a pre-assigned topic.

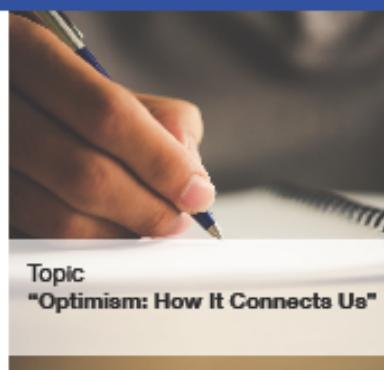
District Scholarships:
First Place: \$2,500 • Second Place: \$1,500 • Third Place: \$1,000
with a chance to win up to \$22,500 at the
World Championships level

ESSAY CONTEST

The Essay Contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live.

The approach can encompass a young person's personal experience, the experience of their country or a more historical perspective. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship!

One District Scholarship of \$2,500



COMMUNICATION CONTEST FOR THE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

This contest offers an opportunity for students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing to present their thoughts in the community, gaining skills, which can only come from signing or speaking to a large audience. Patterned after the Optimist Oratorical Contest, the contest offers youth the chance to compete in speech or sign language with the chance to win a college scholarship.

One District Scholarship of \$2,500



Topic
"How to Change the World
with Optimism"

KIDS SPEAK OUT! SPEECH CONTEST

All young people can compete in the Optimist Oratorical Contest. The "Kids Speak Out" contest is a "pre-Oratorical" program that provides a more equitable competition for younger speakers.



Follow complete Official Rules posted on www.optimist.org

District Events



November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4 District 1st Qtr. Meeting in Pleasantfield
5 	6	7 	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Club CFR Townhall meeting via ZOOM. Check e-mail for link. 7PM	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 	24 	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Optimist International



Celebrate + Address + Recognize = Excel

The new C.A.R.E. program is a structured plan for clubs to celebrate accomplishments while resolving issues and strengthening membership. The four-step annual program is designed to help keep Optimist Club membership healthy, strong and engaged, while allowing everyone to feel they have a voice in their Club's direction.

Celebrate

Host an annual party for your Club members. Send out invites and ask a fellow Optimist to facilitate the program. Celebrate the Club's accomplishments and discuss the impact you have had in your community over cake.

Send out anonymous member surveys through Survey Monkey or JotForm two weeks before the event. It's important that the survey be anonymous so that members can give honest feedback.

Include these four questions:

- What do you think went well this year?
- What do you feel the Club needs to work on?
- What makes you happy to be a member of your Optimist Club?
- Do you have a new idea for a Club community service project, youth activity or fundraiser?

Address

Have the guest facilitator review the survey responses and have an open, unbiased discussion. Be sure to ask a person who is not a member of your Club to be your facilitator. Some facilitator suggestions include a past or current Governor, Lt. Governor or member of a nearby Club.

Address any reasons why members might leave the Club and make a list of potential improvements.

Recognize

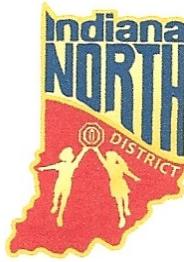
Recognize any issues, areas for improvement and ways to strengthen membership, then create an opportunity to recognize members for their accomplishments, exceptional work and efforts throughout the year. Honor members with appreciation awards or a Member of the Year award.

Excel

Plan to move forward together as a stronger Club.

VISIT:
OPTIMIST.ORG
INDIANANORTHDISTRICT.ORG

INDIANA NORTH DISTRICT
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL



Governor: Chris Whitehead: 574-870-7173
crw1@protonmail.com
Co-Governors Elect: Kathy Nelson and Jennifer Kelsick
Past Governor: Max Soliday: Max.jeep@comcast.net
762-960-5857
District Sec: Shelley Manthey: Smanthey42@gmail.com
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: Gregg Palmer
Zone 5: Kathy Nelson
Zone 6: Rob Upchurch
Zone 7: None

Your Leadership Team for
Optimist Year 2023-2024

Indiana North District News Letter Editor:
Jim Burk
1315 Hollendale Dr
Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone: 260-223-0926
E-mail: jburk63@gmail.com

“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 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