

The Indiana North District

October



PTIMIST

**SPECIAL
POINTS**

OF INTEREST

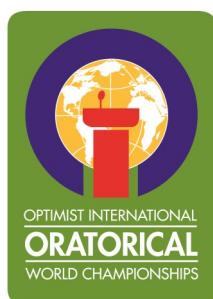
District News

Upcoming Activities

A new Optimist Year!

Save the dates:

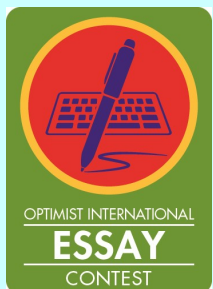
- 1st Qtr. Meeting in Decatur 11/23/24
- 2nd Qtr. Meeting in Chesterfield 2/1/25
- 3rd Qtr. meeting in Huntington 4/26/25 (Oratorical finals)
- Dist. Convention in Muncie 8/22-24/25
- Details will be available closer to the meeting dates.



The topic for the 2024-2025 Oratorical Contest is:

"How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times".

It's time to make school/teacher contacts for this years Scholarship Contests.



The Topic for the 2024-2025 Essay Contest is:

"How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success"

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

OPTIMIST.ORG



**CHOOSE
OPTIMISM**

Meet your Governors

Indiana North District Co-Governor Designate 2023-24

Kathy Nelson 765-744-4092

West Jay Optimist Club & Mighty Marvels of Jay County



Kathy has a passion for serving the community and 'bringing out the best' in our kids. It's that teacher 'light-bulb' moment you see, then in return you are motivated to bring greatness out of yourself & others. She became a charter member of the West Jay Club, 25 yrs. ago, and The Mighty Marvels of Jay Club mentor/member 3 yrs. ago. She was a West Jay Honor Club President-2

years, & chairs their Elementary Honor Students of the Semester.

-In 2020, she was IN North District Humanitarian of the year.

-2021-23 served as Zone 5 Lt. Governor.

-A Dunkirk High School graduate, earned a Ball State University degree in Music Education in 1989, has 2 adult sons & 2 grandchildren.

-retired West Jay Middle School teacher after 25 years in the classroom; two years ago returned full-time due to a teacher shortage!

- In 2023, she received the IN State Teacher's Delta Kappa Gamma Organization Distinguished Teacher Award.

-Her home is in rural Dunkirk, IN, with woods, wildlife habitat, & pond

- she enjoys gardening, wild flowers, hummingbirds, & nature walks.

- She is a huge Disney World fan, and loves to travel to historic places.

-Kathy was a host sponsor for 5 years with Chinese teachers in the Jay Schools. In 2012, she traveled to China to visit schools & students there.

-She serves as a Director of Kids Hope, partnering 1 adult with 1 child, 1 day, 1 hr. per week, to help kids improve social & academic skills.

-Director of a Free Clothing Closet serving local school families 2x month

-Received the Second Harvest Big Idea Volunteer 'Rockstar Award' in 2023.

-Serves as West Jay Community Center Board of Directors Secretary

-Dunkirk Community Scholarship Chair; Treasurer- Dunkirk Calvary UMC.

Indiana North District Co-Governor Designate 2023-24 Jennifer Kelsik 765-524-2211 New Castle Breakfast Optimist Club



Jennifer Kelsik has been an Optimist since 2017. She was recruited by Susie Delay into the New Castle Breakfast Club. She has been in charge of the club newsletter, Sergeant of Arms, and Club President. She has been to several Zone and District meetings and the last three International Conventions.

She retired from teaching in 2017 after 38 years. Thirty-four of those years at New Castle High School. She was in the business education department the first 20 years and then became the department head of physical education. She also coached high school girls/boy/club swimming for 40 years. She coached a team to a 4th place tie at the state meet in girls and a state champion boy in the 100 Free along with many sectional and conference team and individual champions.

After retirement she became a Flight Attendant for Republic Airways and loves to travel. In her spare time, she plays euchre with a group of retired teachers, teaches driver education for The Link and plays tennis in a women's league at the Pendleton Sport and Wellness Center.

She can't wait to serve the District for the next year. She feels her past has prepared her to work with many different types of people and different situations and be a leader going into the 2024-2025 year.

Club Happenings



Warsaw Breakfast Club

Ariel Wagner, Lilly Lakes and Streams, received a \$700 donation to assist with their fourth grade program, Lake Adventure Days



We had a busy Saturday in the field picking pumpkins! We have so many groups helping to harvest our crop in exchange for funds to support their organizations.

One of our groups on Saturday was the Fulton County 4-H Goat Project. They reported that they had fun and got the job done before the sun got hot and the field got dusty! Yay!!

We are so proud to support these organizations that benefit the youth of our community.

Please visit our Pumpkin Stand on E. 9th Street

The Rochester Optimist Club

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

Welcome

Our newest Indiana North Club Blackford County Optimist Club





Optimist Institute 2024-25 courses

Christopher Whitehead

to Kathy, Jennifer, Shell, James, Sandy, MAX, Kris, Pam, Gregg, Susie, lorabelle, Deb, Jessica, Rob, Sandra.Kay.D
om, Julie, Ann, Gary, Brian, mel, me

Good afternoon, District leaders,

The instructions for renewing your Optimist Institute subscription for 2024-25 are attached to this email. If you are currently able to log in, but can't access any courses, you need to follow these instructions.

Governors-Designate Kathy and Jennifer-Please forward this information to your 2024-25 team. If I missed anyone, please forward this message to them.

Lt. Governors Designate who are included on the email- please keep this information for your records, to be shared with the 2024-25 club officers in your Zone.

As always, please let me know if you have any questions. It has been my pleasure serving you as Governor, and I am more than ready to have Jennifer and Kathy take the reins.

Have a great day.

Thanks/Mahalo,
Gov. Chris

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Heather Myers <Heather.Myers@optimist.org>

Date: On Mon, Sep 30, 2024 at 10:45 AM

Subject: Fw: RE: Optimist Institute course availability

To: Christopher Whitehead <crw1@protonmail.com>

Cc:

You need to renew the subscription on your account. Please see the attached step-by-step instructions to do so.

Heather Myers
Optimist Institute Director
Optimist International
Heather.Myers@optimist.org

Get Paid for Having Fun



**MEMBERSHIP
DUES? GROUPER
HELPS COVER 'EM!**



Last quarter, we let our members know about a new partnership we have launched with Grouper. This partnership allows members over 65 the opportunity to receive a check to help cover their Optimist International membership dues. Out of the members that signed up, over a third were eligible and will be receiving a check from Grouper to help reimburse their membership dues.

Will your current health plan be eligible as well?

This isn't too good to be true, it's an amazing opportunity to show appreciation to our members. If you have a qualifying Medicare Advantage or Supplement plan, you may be eligible to have your Optimist membership dues covered by your health plan through the Grouper Social Benefit.

The only way to check your eligibility is to sign up at www.hellogrouper.com/Optimist and enter your health plan ID.

Once your plan's eligibility is confirmed, Grouper will send you a reimbursement check to help cover your yearly Optimist membership. Plus, as long as you let us know you are active throughout the year, you'll receive yearly reimbursements.

For any inquiries or assistance, feel free to reach out to the dedicated Grouper team at 833-519-1072 or via email at optimist@hellogrouper.com.

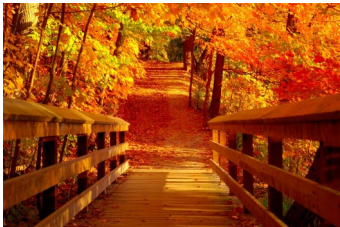
Stay healthy and active with Optimist and Grouper!

The question has come up: "is this a scam?"

The answer: NO! This is for real. So, take advantage of it if you can.

District Events

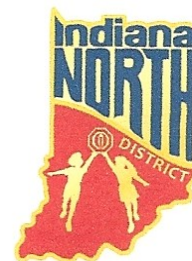
October 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		



VISIT:
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INDIANA NORTH DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Co-Governor: Kathy Nelson 765-744-4092
Co-Governor: Jennifer Kelsik 795-524-2211
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574-596-7072
District Treasurer:
Lt. Governors:
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Zone 3: Pam Galloway
Zone 4: Gregg Palmer
Zone 5: Deb Imel
Zone 6: Lorie Hofman
Zone 7: Jessica Jarrett
Zone 9: Robert Upchurch

Indiana North District News Letter Editor:

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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

Your Leadership
Team for 2023-
2024

**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 youth, our
communities, and ourselves.

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