



**SPECIAL  
POINTS  
OF INTEREST**

***Upcoming Activities***

Save the dates:

- 2nd Qtr. Meeting in Chesterfield 2/1/25

The deadline for reserving rooms for 2nd qtr. meeting is **December 31, 2024 by 3pm.** Holiday Inn Express at 6720 Scatterfield Road Anderson 765-779-0111

Group Code when calling for the room block: **Indiana North Optimist**  
Rooms are \$115. plus tax

- 3rd Qtr. meeting in Huntington 4/26/25 (Oratorical finals)
- Dist. Convention in Muncie 8/22-24/25

# The Indiana North District



# PTIMIST

## *District News*

## First Quarter Meeting

Our First Quarter Meeting was held in Decatur on Saturday, November 23rd. The Meeting was very well attended with 42 registered to attend. The Decatur Club served a GREAT lunch with their grilled tenderloins, salad, 2 choices of vegetables, cheesy potatoes and plenty of deserts. We heard from Optimist International President, Jan Oord via video, Mid-America VP Sandy Doyle, and also the Indiana North Optimist of the Year, Susie Delay, and the Humanitarian of the year, Dru Hall.

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

OPTIMIST.ORG



**CHOOSE  
OPTIMISM**

## Governor's Corner



**Co-Governor Kathy Nelson**



**Co-Governor Jennifer Kelsik**

### Greetings IN NORTH:

The 1st Quarter Optimist Gathering in Decatur is now behind us, and I hope those who attended feel encouraged to 'GROW YOUR CLUB'! It was a day of amazing speakers, excellent officer training, and Optimism Rocks! 60's & 90's music & door prizes, delicious food all day provided by the Decatur Club, an Optimist Foundation 50/50 raffle & auction, Fellowship time, & hearing what other clubs are doing to be successful. Miss a District gathering, you miss a lot! (next is FEB. 1st)

Make sure you share your Optimist story, so children & adults remember the 'Optimists' name. Share your ideas & move your club to add a new project. Challenge your club to grow +3, then they invite someone, and now you have the workers to accomplish that event. The excitement you generate around you will motivate others to 'step up' as new leaders, so be sure to create a job for them. Engaged members are happier, so let's give members a return on their investment.

### 2024-25 GOALS:

- Retention of current members - call, email, text - let them know you CARE
- Celebrate the club's accomplishments, plan FUN events, be happy
- Address any issues/ move toward what works for your group
- Recognize the accomplishments of members - Facebook awards, newspaper
- Excel with GROWTH, achieve Honor Club, have your officers learn on Optimist Institute, & watch members become future club LEADERS. Why not welcome people into our wonderful world of Optimism. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. So...DREAM BIG... MAKE A PLAN... BELIEVE IT... and watch your club SOAR!

I am blessed to be an Optimist. I can't imagine my life without it. May the Christmas Story inspire us to share happiness with everyone we meet!

OPTIMISM ROCKS 🎵

Co-Governor, Kathy

jkccjaj@gmail.com

# Club Happenings

1). On 11-11-24, the **West Jay Optimist Club** held a free dinner for local Veterans at the Dunkirk American Legion Post #222. We had 11 Veterans and guests attend the event with nine members attending to help support the event. We served chili, hot dogs, and dessert to those in attendance. The Veterans were also recognized for their service with a star from decommissioned flags.

2). On 11-16-24, the West Jay Optimist Club supported a local group for a community event. The West Jay Optimist donated to the town's annual Turkey drop. Several members attended the event as well. There were at least 5 club members attending including Tina Elliot who was running the event with the support of the local mayor. The Mayor of Dunkirk is positioned above the ground on scaffolding and he drops rubber chickens for the participants to catch. Participants that catch the rubber chickens turn them in to receive a turkey 🦃 for Thanksgiving.

The turkey drop has different age categories and was very well attended.

## From Lafayette Breakfast

We had the best year ever with poinsettia sales: sales totaled \$19, 290 and there are 1194 plants to be delivered.

## From Warsaw Breakfast



**Check Presentation** – \$1,000 to LaunchPad – Sherry Searles, Scott Wiley & Rob Parker representing the Optimist and Chamber

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



# New Castle Optimist Youth Appreciation



We honored 23 students at our 55th annual Youth Appreciation Banquet. (a couple were absent)

## Awards for 2023-2024



Shelly Manthey ,  
secretary



Jim Smith treasurer



Julie Robinson Regional VP



Susie Delay  
Optimist of the year



Dru Hall,  
Humanitarian  
of the Year

# Get Paid for Having Fun



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



Dear Optimist Member,

We know you value a strong and engaged Optimist community, and we know you value a good deal, too, so Optimist wants to highlight our partnership with Grouper and get your annual membership dues covered!

Grouper provides benefits to Optimist members aged 65+ for participating in group activities. Maintaining social connections through group activities — like volunteering or mentoring, or having lunch with friends or fellow Optimists — is especially important for older adults, who have above-average risks of social isolation.

For Optimist members with an eligible Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan, annual dues are covered. Once you enroll and your eligibility is confirmed, Grouper will send you a check. [Check your eligibility and enroll here](#) — it only takes a few seconds!

From club meetings and events to supporting youth and community development, Optimist activities keep our members connected and promote a healthier, more fulfilling life. We know you value community and camaraderie. Let Grouper support those values.

## Questions?

Visit our [FAQ page](#) for more information. For assistance, please call Grouper at (833) 519-1072 or email Grouper at [optimist@hellogrouper.com](mailto:optimist@hellogrouper.com).

**The question has come up: “is this a scam?”**

**The answer: NO! This is for real. So, take advantage of this. I just signed up and they are sending me a \$100 check for my dues!!!**



# Newsday Tuesday



## Leadership Interest Survey

For many years, Optimist International (OI) has invested significant resources in developing leaders within the organization. This has led to the development of strong volunteer leadership teams within clubs, districts, and the international office, and this has been a significant contributor to the sustainability of the organization since its first international convention was hosted in 1919. It has also been responsible for the expansion of the organization with membership in almost every continent of the world, who have left indelible marks on the lives of children, and the communities in which they live.

## Purpose

This survey is for the organization to better determine the interests of the wider membership in serving in leadership roles as determined by the Board of Directors of Optimist International.

The organization's current model of leadership acquisition is through various models of member voting or selection by the International Board of Directors. Members vote for leaders for Club, District, and Board positions. The Board of Directors selects members through its President for International Committees. The primary vehicle that is used for members to identify leaders is through an arm of the organization called the Candidates Qualifications Committee (CQ). The Board of Directors and every club and district has a CQ Committee. The primary role of that committee is to evaluate members and present them for the various offices based on suitability and eligibility criteria set out by the various policies and bylaws in effect.

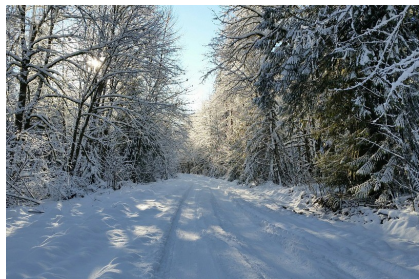
The CQ committee of the Board is concerned that it may not fully be aware of the depth of talented leaders that exist in clubs throughout the organization, who may be suitable for consideration of leadership roles in International Offices. As such, it is hoped that this survey can facilitate the development of new databases of potential leaders who personally express an interest in serving at higher levels in the International office.





Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your responses will be evaluated and used by the International Board of Directors, through its committees and the Executive Director, to determine your suitability and eligibility for various positions as they become vacant.

Please go online to the Optimist Website to take the survey;

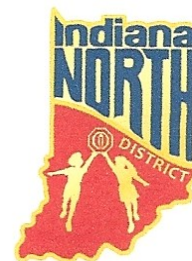
# District Events

## December 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 1st day of Winter 
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31 	<p>The deadline for reserving rooms for 2nd qtr. meeting is <b>December 31, 2024 by 3pm.</b> Holiday Inn Express at 6720 Scatterfield Road Anderson 765-779-0111</p> <p>Group Code when calling for the room block: <u><a href="#">Indiana North Optimist</a></u></p> <p>Rooms are \$115. plus tax</p>			

VISIT:  
OPTIMIST.ORG  
INDIANANORTHDISTRICT.ORG



## INDIANA NORTH DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

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574-596-7072  
Lt. Governors:  
Zone 2: Kris Mueller  
Zone 3: Pam Galloway  
Zone 4: Gregg Palmer  
Zone 5: Deb Imel  
Zone 6: Lorie Hofman  
Zone 7: Jessica Jarrett  
Zone 9: Robert Upchurch

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**"Like us" on  
Face Book**

**Optimists are:  
The Friend of Youth**

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

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

—Winston Churchill

Your Leadership  
Team for 2023-  
2024

## 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**