



**SPECIAL  
POINTS  
OF INTEREST**

***Activities This Month***

- 3rd Qtr. meeting in Huntington 4/26/25 (Oratorical)
- finals)

***Upcoming Activities***

Save the dates:

- Dist. Convention in Muncie 8/22-24/25
- Details will be available closer to the meeting dates.

# The Indiana North District



# PTIMIST

## *District News*

Indiana North District Optimist Third Quarter gathering is going to be featuring the Roaring 20's, so come dressed in your best time period outfit on Saturday April 26, 2025 at Huntington University located at: 2303 College Avenue in Huntington, Indiana 46750. There will be prizes for the best outfit! Executive Committee will meet via Zoom on Sunday, April 13 at 7pm.

If you are coming in on Friday evening, we will meet at Mecates Mexican Grill located at 105 Frontage Road in Huntington at 6pm for dinner, ordering off the menu at your own expense. The hotel we have reserved is the Comfort Inn at 2205 N. Jefferson Street, Huntington, where we will have fellowship and games after dinner. REMINDER- hotel reservations need to be made by March 25 by 3pm, using code: INDIANA NORTH OPTIMIST (you can cancel 48 hours in advance should plans change), the number for hotel is 260-356-3434. Room rate is \$99 plus taxes. This meeting will have the District Oratorical finals and the 3 top winning essays will be read, as well as featured speakers, and much more, these meetings are for everyone, not just officers. Once again, every member present gets their club name in a drawing for \$100, so bring all the members you can. We do have a Zoom option available (contact Sandy Rogers at 765-209-0226 or [skbpuzzles@yahoo.com](mailto:skbpuzzles@yahoo.com) by April 23rd for link if needed).

There will be door prize drawings throughout the day, when you hear the music, listen for your ticket number to win.

Our District Foundation Rep. Max will once again have a fun activity to raise money for the foundation, so bring cash or your checkbook with you, and remember the Optimist 500 is still on, so let Sandy Rogers know about those donations to OI Foundation. Our fellowship committee will have some FUN for us. All to enjoy. You won't want to miss this one!!

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

District News	1
Governors Corner	2
Club Happenings	3
Calendar	11
Our Mission, Vision, Purpose	12

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

OPTIMIST.ORG



**CHOOSE  
OPTIMISM**

## Governor's Corner





**Co-Governor Kathy Nelson**

Good News.....Spring has finally arrived! So...it's time to SPRING into action...DREAM how your club can GROW... Be OPTIMISTIC your club can do it, & PLAN that community project you put off doing last year. It's FUN to do the impossible! Defy the odds...Be different... Do whatever it takes... BELIEVE Optimists 'BRING OUT THE BEST'. Be the INSPIRATION to change a child's future & aspire to be the mover & shaker in your club!

**Q3 DISTRICT GATHERING - APRIL 26, 2025 -**  
**HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY- \*\* Meeting**  
**Room ADDRESS: Habegger Dining Com-**  
**mons 502 Lake Street 9:30**  
**a.m. !! Huntington, IN 46750**


 'Roaring 20's' Theme - BEST COSTUME 'YOU

   
ROCK' AWARD  
Oratorical Contest Regionals need to be complet-

ed by April 20th.  
 Regions are: \*Zones 2 /3/ 6 - REGION  
 1 (send  
 2)  
 \*Zones 4 / 5 - REGION 2 - April 3rd- (send  
 2) \*Zones  
 7 / 9 - REGION 3 - (send 2)

Each Region can send 2 students to the **FINALS** at  
 HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY. **Gather by**  
**9:30 a.m.** Finalists/Judges arrive by 10 a.m.  
**Lunch cost \$25** - District pays finalist lunch/  
 guests self pay or clubs can help


**Essay Contest District Awards** - on April 26th -

(help cover lunch costs)   
 QUESTIONS: Essay Chair- JUDY LeMAS-  
 TER [judylemaster42@gmail.c](mailto:judylemaster42@gmail.c)

QUESTIONS: Oratorical Chair-VICTORIA  
 YORK [yorkvj88@gmail.com](mailto:yorkvj88@gmail.com)

Attendees who **SPONSOR A MEMBER** by the Q3  
 District Gathering in Huntington will receive a  
**SPECIAL \$ GIFT.?** from your Gover-

nors.

 **NEW CLUB** to Build - **YOUNG ADULT VIRTUAL**  
**CLUB** - Interested in sponsoring a club? Con-  
 tact your Governors . We have a team to help  
 you.



**Co-Governor Jennifer Kelsik**

**MARKET YOUR CLUB** - Facebook Page- show  
 community projects, NOW events, Award  
 Celebrations, Speakers at gatherings,  
 Newspapers, radio ads, etc.

**WANTED: N.O.W. ideas/FUN ideas to at-**  
**tract NEW & RETAIN MEMBERS-**

\* SEND your ideas to Gov. Jen-  
 nifer - copies available @ Huntington.  
**ATTENDANCE AWARD \$100 DRAW - bring**



a carload from your club!  
**A & A reports due APRIL 10th-**  
**EMAIL SANDY ROG-**  
**ERS [skbpuzzles@yahoo.com](mailto:skbpuzzles@yahoo.com)**

**LIFE IS LIKE A BOOK. SOME CHAPTERS ARE**  
**GOOD. SOME HAPPY & EXCITING.**  
**BUT IF YOU NEVER TURN THE PAGE, YOU MISS**  
**WHAT THE NEXT CHAPTER HOLDS.**

**Turn the page. Promise to live the Creed every-**  
**day.....be the change!**

Co-Governors Kathy Nel-  
 son [jkccjaj@gmail.com](mailto:jkccjaj@gmail.com) 765-744-4092  
 Jennifer Kelsik [jkelsik@gmail.com](mailto:jkelsik@gmail.com)  
 765-524-2211

# Club Happenings



OPTIMIST DAY FEB. 6th PROCLAMATION signed by Portland Mayor Jeff Westlake with Gov. Kathy Nelson, presented to Portland Breakfast & Evening Clubs.

(standing)

Mike Leonhardt, Laurinda Shope, PJ Corwin, Bobby Ruiz, Judy & Leland LeMaster



Portland Eve. Optimist Pres. presents 2024 OI Honor Club Secretary Certificate to Jane Jobe.

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





Sandy Rogers- West Jay Distinguished Club- Secretary awards




Tammy Smith from Big Brothers Big Sisters accepts \$2,000 check from the Warsaw Breakfast Club. \$1,000 Bowl for Kids Sake and \$1000 toward The Big Celebration. Optimist has donated \$30,000 over the years to BBBS.



Immediate Past Gov. Chris accepts his Gov. scrapbook from Historian Chair- Vivian Jackson & Asst. Kathleen Mahoney.



Susie Delay -New Castle Club & Sabrina Glidden- Blackford Club

Audience winners 



Jay Co. Elementary Oratorical Participants 2025 - The Twelve students were from Redkey, West Jay, East Jay, Bloomfield, & Christian Academy.



The Bluffton Club presented two checks to the City pool. \$1000 towards a new pool, and \$500 to cover entrance fee for the kids.



# Newsday Tuesday



The excitement is building for our [International Convention](#), June 29 to July 3, 2025, in St. Louis, Missouri. Optimists worldwide will gather for inspiration, training, networking, and just to have fun! This convention promises to be a member experience that you won't want to miss!

## **But we need your help to do this right!**

Optimist International sets a break-even budget for each convention that keeps registration and meal fees to a minimum, ensuring that this event is as affordable as possible for our members. The registration fee covers the essentials of the convention, including the cost of meeting rooms, general session production, trainings and workshops, audio/visual equipment and more.

To make this year's convention extra special, the Convention Committee needs your help to add several special features that go above and beyond the basics. Do you have any connections or know of a potential sponsor or donor for the following?

**Opening Ceremony** — Sunday, June 29. We plan to feature non-profit groups as flag carriers, National Anthem singer, and entertainers. Additional funding will allow us to express our gratitude by making a donation to these organizations in recognition of their participation.

**Coffee Breaks** — Monday, June 30 to Wednesday, July 2.

**Youth Program** — Monday, June 30 to Wednesday, July 2. Additional funds will help offset the cost of the transportation and meals needed to host the children attending with their families.

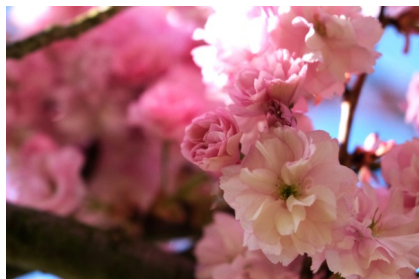
If your club or district would like to make a donation toward these additional aspects of the convention, [click here](#) for the linked form to choose a giving level and how you would like to give.

## **All donors and sponsors will be recognized at the annual convention!**

Also, if you're planning to attend the convention, [click here](#) and be sure to take advantage of the discounted early-bird pricing by registering on or before May 1. The registration rate increases by \$50 US / \$68 CAD per member on **May 2**.

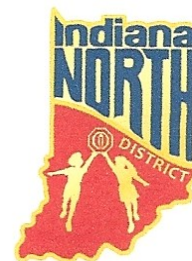
# District Events

## April 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 7pm CDT Webinar: Creating an Opti- mistic Mindset.	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

VISIT:  
OPTIMIST.ORG  
INDIANANORTHDISTRICT.ORG



## INDIANA NORTH DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Co-Governor: Kathy Nelson 765-744-4092  
Co-Governor: Jennifer Kelsik 795-524-2211  
Governor Elect: Jim Smith Jim.Smith06@yahoo.com  
317-697-2521  
Past Governor: Chris Whitehead 574-870-7173  
District Sec: Sandy Rogers: skbpuzzles@yahoo.com  
District Treasurer: Shelley Manthey:  
Smanthey42@gmail.com  
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

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**

**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 2024-  
2025

## 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