

The Indiana North District OPTIMIST



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

District News

Activities This Month

The first quarter District Meeting will be held in Plainfield on November 8th. This will be a joint meeting with the Indiana South District.

Location: Richard Carlucci Recreation & Aquatic Center.
651 Vestal Rd.
Plainfield, IN



What would you expect from a weekly meeting of the Optimist Society?

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



**CHOOSE
OPTIMISM**



The new Optimist year is off & running. It remains to be seen how smoothly it's going, but at least we have a start. The first event district-wide is our first quarter district meeting. As you should know by now, it's being held on November 8th in Plainfield, as a joint meeting with our neighbors to the south - Indiana South District. Sandy Rogers sent the email with the information, including the link to the online reservation, a few weeks ago. Reservations need completed by Nov.3rd, to give the caterer ample time to prepare an adequate number of meals. Please join us to not only learn of new information within our district, but also to see how our closest district conducts its programs. For example, it's nearly time to start getting essay and oratorical contest information out to our school districts to give them time to prepare for these long-standing, rich program. Besides the new Jay Noon Optimist Club just chartered in late September we have in place. our new club (growth) committee

has been working hard elsewhere in our half of the state. There are positive signs that a few more clubs will be formed in the coming weeks. Many thanks to Sandy Doyle, Kathy Nelson, Jennifer Kelsik, and others for putting in a lot of time and effort to help launch these clubs. We've experienced too many clubs folding these past few years. It's past time to reverse this trend, so our great Optimist programs can be benefitting more kids. Just remember, that's what we're all about - serving youth. And we can never forget about our existing clubs. Although they may be on solid ground with some existing, very worthwhile programs, how many more kids could we reach if we had more members join our ranks? And the only way to do that is just ask. Yes, ask our friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc. if they want to help us help kids. Give them a physical application form, or email or text them an online form or link. It's just that easy for us to have KidsUp!

Jim Smith

Governor - 2025-26

Club Happenings

Warsaw Breakfast makes a \$2,000 donation to Warsaw FOP, Christmas with a Cop



Grant Check Presentation – Board Member \$700 Kathryn Fields, Cardinal Service – Early Head Start and Head Start



Lafayette Breakfast Optimist Club

All Treats, No Tricks: Halloween came a little for a dozen or so Optimists and their minions this past Saturday as they took part in “Halloween with the Animals” event at The Farm at Prophetstown State Park. As one of the sponsors of the event, LBOC supplied the candy for the event, and although there was a lot of it, it disappeared fairly quickly as

more than 700 children and their families made their way around the main house and barn area, dressed in a wide variety of costumes, collecting treats and having friendly encounters with a variety of farm animals. Oldsters Ron and Michele Summers, Gary and Virginia Buttry, Dave and Janie Norman, Jeff Oliver, and Denny DeMay were joined by younger members Matt and Bree Lerch and Madelyn Schurman, whose young sons Jack and Kruze helped hand out the treats. The young lady above not only thanked us for the candy but also for sponsoring her soccer

The Decatur Optimist Club participated in Trick-or-Treats at the Safety Village. We passed out 8-9 pounds of candy to approximately 400 kids, on a cold and windy day.



HALLOWEEN AT MILLCREEK FOR CHESTERFIELD COMMUNITY WITH CHESTERFIELD OPTIMISTS HOSTING A TRICK OR TREAT GAME ROOM AND SERVING A DINNER FUNDRAISER WITH 4 COOKS



The **Bluffton Optimist Club** passed out 2400 pieces of candy in 70 minutes at the Autumn Adventure event. Left to right is Elmer Pate, Dan Gerdom and Bob Frantz

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

MIDDLEBURY BREAKFAST OPTIMIST'S PRESENT TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY, NOV. 7, 2025

Northridge High School Cafeteria

- *Registration Starting at 5:30pm*
- *Dinner Served Starting at 6:00pm*
- *Trivia Starting at 6:30pm-9:00pm*

\$20 per Person to Play
Or \$150 per Table
(Limit of 8 people per table/per team)

100% Of The Proceeds To Benefit
Several Programs That Benefit the Youth Of Our Community

For Details, Call Kris Mueller 574-536-0774

Top Prize For The Winning Team

\$20 per Person **15th Annual** **Food Available** **Ask About A VIP or Kicks & Giggles Sponsorships** **Everyone Welcome**



Middlebury Optimist's Trivia Night

To Benefit Several Programs for the Youth of Our Community

TEAM / Player Registration:

Friday, Nov 7, 2025

Contact Person: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____ (Street or PO Box) _____ (City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip)

Name of Team: (Required*) _____
**Team Name's Maybe A Creative As You Like.*
(Please advise your team members of your **Team Name or Contact Person Prior to arriving** on that Friday.)

Name of Team Members: (1) _____ (5) _____
(2) _____ (6) _____
(3) _____ (7) _____
(4) _____ (8) _____

\$20.00 PER PLAYER OR \$150.00 PER TABLE

There is a limit of EIGHT (8) PLAYERS PER TABLE. If you have extra players, we can combine them with other players to make a full table if necessary. We don't want to turn anyone away and want everyone to feel welcome and to have FUN!!

Total Number of Players: _____ X **\$20.00** = _____
OR # of Tables: _____ X **\$150.00** = _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

For Online Registration



Optimist Venmo: @TheMiddleburyOptimistClub

If Paying By Check, Please Make Payable To: **Middlebury Optimist's Club & Mail**
Original Form, and Full Payment
To: Trivia Night ~ Player Reg.
C/o Middlebury Optimist
P.O. Box 1112
Middlebury, IN 46540

Questions?
Please Contact:
Kris Mueller @ (574) 536-0774
Cynthia Miller @ (574) 210-9844

For Optimist Use Only

Date Received: _____
Received By: _____
Amount Received: _____
Check Number: _____
Date Given to Treasurer: _____
Entered in Spreadsheet: _____

Middlebury Optimist's Trivia Night

VIP Sponsorship

Friday, Nov. 7, 2025

To Benefit Several Programs for the Youth of Our Community

This sponsorship is for support of the above-mentioned fundraiser and to advertise my business.

Contact Person: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____
Name of Business: _____ Business Phone Number: _____
Address of the Business for the program: _____
Email/Web site for program listing: _____

VIP SPONSORSHIP
Qualifies You for the following:

- +A Reserved Table of up to a total of 8 players,
- +A Set of Dedicated Junior Optimists To See To Your Tables Dining Needs, (Food Not Included)
- +Your Business Logo Will Be Printed (Full Page size ~8.5"x5.5") In Our Program To Be Viewed By 200+ Attendees,
- +Your Business Logo Will Be Pinned To The Optimist Facebook Page
- +Your Business Logo Will Be Displayed During The Night, On The **Trivia Big Screen**
- +The Best Part Of Your Sponsorship Is The Help That This Will Provide To Several Youth Programs In The Middlebury Area

VIP SPONSORSHIP = \$500.00

Each **VIP SPONSORSHIP** is \$500.00 X _____ # Total: \$ _____
**(Tables are limited to 8 players per team)*

YES, we will be sending Trivia Team Members to fill the VIP Sponsored table(s).

NO, we will **NOT** be sending any Trivia Team members to fill the above sponsored table(s).

**** (Please list Trivia Team members below) ****

TEAM NAME: _____

1) _____
2) _____
3) _____
4) _____
5) _____
6) _____
7) _____
8) _____

If you sponsor more than one team, please list names on the back of this form

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Checks Payable To: **Middlebury Optimist's**
****Remember To Make A Copy BEFORE MAILING For Your Records and For Tax Purposes****

Questions?
Please Contact:
Kris Mueller @ (574) 536-0774
Cynthia Miller @ (574) 210-9844

For Online Payments
Optimist Venmo: @TheMiddleburyOptimistClub

Yes, we will supply the logo artwork, by **Nov. 3, 2025**, (see details below)

No, we would like the **Trivia Committee** to decide what our **Trivia Big Screen** ad will look like.

Please Mail: (not emailing them)
Original Form, Full Payment, and Logo Artwork
To: Trivia Night ~ VIP Sponsor
C/o Middlebury Optimist
P.O. Box 1112, Middlebury, IN 46540

To Email:
Send Scanned Completed Forms, with Artwork. (In jpeg Format)
Kris Mueller: kam916@comcast.net
(Subject Line: Trivia Night ~ Sponsor Artwork)
****Please add the Check # in the email****

Middlebury Optimist's Trivia Night

"Kicks & Giggles" Sponsorship

Friday, Nov 7, 2025

To Benefit Several Programs for the Youth of Our Community

This sponsorship is for support of the above-mentioned fundraiser and to advertise my business.

Contact Person: _____ Contact Phone Number: _____
Name of Business: _____ Business Phone Number: _____
Address of the Business for the Program: _____
Email/Website for Program Listing: _____

SPONSORSHIP
Qualifies You for the following:

- +Your Business Logo To Be Pinned To Our Middlebury Optimist Facebook Page
- +Your Business Logo To Be Printed (5.5"x4.25" size) In Our Program To Be Seen By 200+ Attendees,
- +Your Business Logo To Be Displayed During The Different Trivia Rounds, Throughout The Night, On The **Trivia Big Screen**
- +The Best Part Of Your Sponsorship Is The Help That It Will Provide To Several Youth Programs In The Middlebury Area

"Kicks & Giggles" Sponsorship = \$250.00

Each **"Kicks & Giggles"** Sponsorship is \$250.00 X _____ #
Total: \$ _____
(This Does Not Include a Team Table **)**

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Checks Payable To: **Middlebury Optimist's**
****Remember To Make A Copy BEFORE MAILING For Your Records and For Tax Purposes****

Yes, we will supply the logo artwork, by **Nov 3, 2025**, (see details below)

No, we would like the **Trivia Committee** to decide what our **Trivia Big Screen** ad will look like.

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Cynthia Miller @ (574) 210-9844

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Optimist Venmo: @TheMiddleburyOptimistClub

To Mail: (if not emailing them)
Original Form, Full Payment & Logo Artwork
To: Trivia Night ~ Kicks & Giggles Sponsor
C/o Middlebury Optimist
P.O. Box 1112
Middlebury, IN 46540

To Email:
Send Scanned Completed Forms, with Artwork. (In jpeg Format)
Kris Mueller: kam916@comcast.net
(Subject Line: Trivia Night ~ Sponsor Artwork)
****Please add the Check # in the email****

For Optimist Use Only

Date Received: _____
Received By: _____
Amount Received: _____
Check Number: _____
Date Given to Treasurer: _____
Date Entered in Spreadsheet: _____

Newsday Tuesday



Webinar: Are We Helping or Supporting? A Real Talk About Community Needs

Let's be honest – we've been doing good work for a long time! Sometimes we run programs because "we've always done them" or because they were a good idea years ago. Communities change. The needs of young people change. This workshop is about making sure we're not just busy doing but actually making an impact where it matters most by understanding the difference between helping and supporting. We'll also figure out how to really listen to your community, look at what we're currently doing, and find the gaps. No judgment, just practical tools to help you do more good in your community. Be the Change!

When: Monday, November 10, 7 p.m. Central Time

[Click here to register](#)

Growth Committee Webinars

The series of webinars by the International Growth Committee continues in November. The committee will present "**The Connection Between Growth and Marketing**" on November 11 and November 13. Registration links are below.

When: Nov 11, 2025, 7 p.m. Central Time [Click here to register](#)

When: Nov 13, 2025 7 p.m. Central Time [Click here to register](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

OIF Board Nominations

The Optimist International Foundation is proud to be a vibrant partner with Optimist International. That partnership provides funding for all OI programs and services, such as all scholarships associated with Oratorical, Essay, and CCDHH, a large portion of the JOI operations, and many other aspects of the Optimist Mission.

The Board plays a pivotal role in leading the OIF endeavor. The Board is made up of Optimist Members that have been elected by the donors to serve. So, it truly is "Your Optimist International Foundation."

We are approaching the deadline of Dec. 1, 2025, for nominations. The individual elected will serve four (4) years, beginning Oct. 1, 2026. There are several qualifications, but the key ones are:

- Have served as a District Foundation Representative
- Be a Member of an Optimist Club in good standing
- Be a financial supporter within his/her means for the last five years
- Be eligible to vote in the OIF election (contributed at least Dime-A-Day level the prior Optimist year)
- Submit a letter of endorsement from a Past Governor in your primary District

If you know of someone that might be interested or have questions, please have them contact OIF Executive Director Craig Boring at:

Email: craig.boring@oifoundation.org

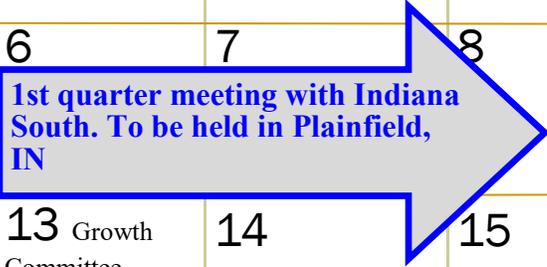
Office line: 314-881-1340

There is a form to fill out, which must be received in the office by 5 p.m. on Dec. 1, 2025.

District Events

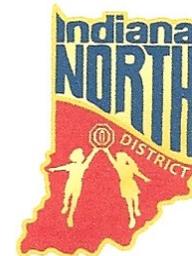


November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
						
9	10	11 Growth Committee Webinars	12	13 Growth Committee Webinars	14	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: Bob Walsh
Zone 4: Josefa Schaper
Zone 5: Deb Imel
Zone 6: Lorie Hofman
Zone 7: Sandy Stone
Zone 9: Rick Barr



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

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