



The Southern Exposure

**Indiana South District – Optimist International**

Volume 30, Issue 1

October 2024

**2024-2025**

**Walt Willms**, Governor

**Greg Kuhn**, Immediate Past Governor

**Kent Reyling**, Past Governor

**Monica Wallace**, Governor Elect

**Kent Reyling**, Secretary-Treasurer

**Lt. Governors**

Zone 1- **Glen Shay**, Indy Bft

Zone 2- **Dennis Fogle**, Greensburg

Zone 3- **Kevin Kessinger**, Plainfield

Zone 4- **John R. Evans**, TH Bft

Zone 5- **Patricia Scott**, Jeff-Falls City

Zone 6- **Bob Scott**, Santa Claus

Zone 7- **Bill Cherolis**, Santa Claus

**Attention:**

**Committee Chairs & Lt  
Governors**

The *deadline* for submitting articles for the next District Bulletin is **December 23,**

**2024.** Send your articles to [p\\_grant@fastmail.fm](mailto:p_grant@fastmail.fm) if you have e-mail. If you prefer, send it snail-mail: 770 N County Road 625 E, Avon, IN 46123.

**DON'T FORGET!**

**Greetings all Indiana South District Optimists**

My thanks to Immediate Past Governor Greg Kuhn and his district team for a good year for the Indiana South District during 2023-2024. Also, my thanks to all of those dedicated optimists who have stepped up to leadership roles for the current year. In this initial District Bulletin, I want to briefly review my vision and goals.

My vision is that our clubs will be active and vibrant; our members will have fun together in club meetings and in activities serving our youth. Also, I would like to see every youth throughout the ISD area have access to our optimist programs.

My goals for the year fall under four areas: 1. Retention and growth. 2. Programs and events. 3. Marketing and communication; 4. Finances.

First is Retention and Growth. I want the district to grow by 5%. In order to grow, we need to keep the members we already have. We should **lose no members** through lack of interest. We will have some members with health issues as they age. Unfortunately, some will be lost through death. As members are lost they must be replaced by adding new members.

Second, we should continually work toward interesting club meetings and exciting events with the youth in our communities. This should help us build a spirit of friendship and community between club members as well as good relationships with those we serve.

Third, good marketing and communications. Facebook is a powerful communications media, and we should use it as effectively and as much as we can to get our message out to the communities. Newspaper articles can be effective as well. They are probably more effective in smaller communities. They should be used to promote major activities of clubs. Internal communications within clubs through monthly or bimonthly newsletters help draw club members closer together. Also, in order to be able to reach members quickly, call lists are useful.

Fourth, to keep our clubs, as well as all levels of Optimist International well-funded, club dues need to be paid promptly. Secretary/Treasurers should send letters of dues owed in a timely manner. If not paid on time there should be follow up to see if there is a problem with the member.

I hope to visit all of our clubs during my year as governor. I want to get to know you and see the good work you are doing. I appreciate the confidence placed in me by electing me to be governor for Optimist year 2024-25 and wish all of you the best.

Walter Wilms, Governor, Indiana South District, Optimist International



Past Governor Greg Kuhn



Governor Walt Wilms

**Indiana South District  
1st Quarter Conference  
Saturday, November 9, 2024**

Richard A. Carlucci Recreation and Aquatic Center  
651 Vestal Rd. Plainfield, IN 46168



Register online through <https://mp.gg/fwpuuy> or complete form below and mail (Please print neatly or type)

Member name #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Name for badge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club name: \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club office held? \_\_\_\_\_ District office? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member name #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Name for badge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club name: \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Club office held? \_\_\_\_\_ District office? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Non-Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name for badge: \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT INFORMATION** *(person submitting registration)*

email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

*Will you be joining us for Dinner Friday night at  
Nona's So Italian?  
5020 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168.  
Dinner at 7:00 pm EST.*

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ How Many \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Functions Require a Reservation	Price	Number	Amount
Registration Fee per Household (living in the same house)	\$5.00	_____	<u>\$5.00</u>
Lunch (per person) Catered by <i>What's Cooking Tonight?</i>	\$17.00	_____	_____

*(Smoked pulled pork cooked w/BBQ sauce, Mango Chicken (boneless chicken breast), cornbread casserole, green beans, Mac & Cheese, individual pumpkin cheesecake, triple chocolate cake, and drinks*

*\*Deadline for lunch choice is Monday, November 4, 2024. After that date lunch may be "on your own".*

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (Must Accompany This Form) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION FORM &  
REMITTANCE**

Indiana South District Registrar  
Attention: Dave Osborne  
1189 Pinewood Drive  
Plainfield, IN 46168  
C (317) 538-4548  
[indsoptimist@gmail.com](mailto:indsoptimist@gmail.com)

**Hotel Accommodations:**

Hotel accommodations are at the  
[Staybridge Inn Suites](#) 6295 Cambridge  
Way, Plainfield, IN 46168  
  
(317) 839-2700.  
  
\$119 a night with Hot Breakfast!

## Agenda Overview (Saturday, November 9, 2024, 9:00 – 3:24 Eastern time):

8:00–9:00 a.m. — Registration      8:15 a.m. Past Governors Meeting

9:00–10:30 a.m.

- Call to Order
- Passing of the Gavel
- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Presentation of Gifts
- Welcome & Introductions
- The 2024-25 District Team
- First Timers & Distinguished Guests
- Presentation of District Awards
- Presentation via ZOOM OI VP
- Targeting New Leaders
- Gov. Opening Comments

**Break** [10 minutes]

**District Board Meeting:**

- Sec/Treas. 2024-25
- Check Signing Approval
- Finance/Budget Report

**Break** [5 minutes]

12:00–1:15 p.m.

**Luncheon -**

- Welcome
- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introductions of Head Table
- 1st Timers, special guests
- Lunch

Guest Speaker-OI Oratorical Winner- **Our Oratorical World Champion is expected to attend at lunch. I encourage you to attend if only to meet Calleigh Neal. She is a very vibrant and engaging young lady. You will not be disappointed by your attendance.**

- OIF Awards & Donations
- Happy Dollars
- Optimist Creed

**Break** [15 minutes]

1:30 – 3:24 p.m

- Healthy Lifestyle
- PGI-New Requirements
- Suggestions for Future Conferences
- LDC Debrief
- Adjourn

### **Message from Governor ...**

As we begin another optimist year, I think that it is appropriate for us to take a deep look at our Optimist Creed. What a wonderful, thoughtful document it is. Its tenets help us to be the best that we can be and also to look outward to see how we can benefit others. In many respects it is similar to the “Golden Rule” – to treat others as we want to be treated. As are applying these principles in our clubs, let us all have a great time at our club meetings. We can do this by having fun projects, enjoying being with our fellow optimists, thanking and complimenting others, volunteering for worthwhile activities, doing creative activities with the youth in our areas, etc. It has been proven scientifically that being with people we like and enjoy helps us to live longer and happier lives. So, let us enjoy our longer and happier lives with our optimist friends. I encourage all of our optimists to make it a priority to attend our First Quarter Indiana South District Conference.

**Walt Willms**, Indiana South Optimist Indiana Governor

**Subject:** Get Paid for Your Optimist Activities

Dear Optimist;

We're thrilled to share some exciting news— Optimist has teamed up with Grouper, a Medicare Advantage and Supplement plan benefit, to support your membership dues!

**What Does This Mean for You?**

Starting now, members with an eligible health plan can enjoy all the benefits of Optimist membership with more peace of mind. If you have a qualifying Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan, Grouper will send you a check to cover part of your Optimist membership dues—up to \$100 per year.

**Check Your Eligibility:**

Curious to know if you qualify? It's easy! Click here: ([GrouperGroups.com/IndianaSouth](https://GrouperGroups.com/IndianaSouth)) to check your eligibility in just a few simple steps. Grouper will reach out within 5 business days to inform you if your health plan covers this social benefit.

We look forward to sharing more about how this partnership with Grouper is designed to enhance your community experience and overall well-being. If you have any immediate questions, feel free to contact Grouper at (833) 519-1072.

Thank you,

Greg Kuhn, Governor

## Clay County Optimists Helping to Educate Children in Clay County

The Clay County Optimist Club was chartered in June of 2022 and has been participating in the Brazil Main Street Festival since that year. In a period of 8 short years, the Brazil Main Street Festival has become the largest single day festival in Indiana as thousands flood National Avenue for food, fun and give-aways.

This year the Optimist Club created an educational give-away program targeted at children in K-5 grades. This was done to complement the pilot program launched by the Indiana Department of Education in Indiana. That program is called “Talking is Teaching” and is a comprehensive effort to promote interaction between parents and children 0-5 years of age to enhance reading readiness.

The Optimist handouts were designed for older children to continue that learning process (and to keep the dinner table top clean!!)

The Clay County Optimists purchased and distributed 200 dining placemats. These were large, laminated placemats in color on one side and with a learning activity on the back.

Eight different placemats were given out to families. The first designs to disappear were the map of Europe and the Presidents of the United States. The other six designs included the Signers of the US Constitution, the Flags of the World, The US Weights & Measures, Metric System Units, Elements of Weather and Roman Numerals.

One surprising thing that happened was the number of teachers who came to the Optimist booth requesting multiple types of placemats to post in their classrooms as learning aids.

The Clay County Club also passed out bookmarks with the multiplication tables on them and other items to assist our students and teachers.





## Jackie L. Nichols

Cartersburg

Nominator: Maggie Weatherman

Jackie has given 47 years of his life helping make the Mill Creek community and Cascade High School area a better place for both young and old. He works tirelessly to ensure that the kids in the community are recognized and have the tools they need to succeed.

At 82, Jackie is still coaching youth basketball in the rural farming community of Cartersburg. He worked tirelessly to ensure teams were formed so the kids in the area could play against other teams. He works to give academic and basketball scholarships. He presents Mental Attitude awards, voted on by their peers, to students in fifth through eighth grade.

He has run the play clock for football games at Cascade Middle School since 1999. In conjunction with Cascade High School, he started the "Senior Scholars" dinner, a dinner that recognizes the top 10 graduating seniors. Each senior picks a "most influential" teacher or coach, and all receive plaques. Jackie funds the scholarships and plaques by tirelessly working concession stands during the track season and whatever other days he can get.

For 32 years, Jackie has been a member of the Mill Creek Optimist Club and is currently serving as president again. He oversees the youth basketball, swim and soccer programs and an adult soccer program. The only way a swim team at Cascade was able to be formed was through the Optimist Club. Jackie and the board helped work through all the obstacles that go with starting a new program. Now, 14 years later, the program, which also includes swim lessons, is still going strong.

Because Mr. Nichols is a humble man, it took much convincing for him to list his volunteer activities. He's a very giving, loving individual who puts others first. He's a person who really does "love his neighbor as himself." He's loved by everyone in the community, past and present. He is one of those rare individuals who really is irreplaceable.



# Get Paid for Having Fun



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

**Grouper** +  **Optimist  
INTERNATIONAL**

We're thrilled to share some exciting news — if you're 65 or older and live in the United States, Optimist International has teamed up with Grouper to help cover your membership dues!

## **What Does This Mean for You?**

Grouper will assist in covering Optimist members' membership dues by providing a yearly check for those with qualifying Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plans, up to \$100. This partnership ensures that both long-time members and newcomers can enjoy a break on their yearly dues just for being active and socially connected.

## **Signing Up with Grouper:**

Ready to check if your plan includes Grouper? Simply sign up online at [www.hellogrouper.com/Optimist](http://www.hellogrouper.com/Optimist) with your health plan info. Grouper will contact you within 5 business days to inform you if you are eligible - then they will send a check regardless of when you last paid your dues.

We are excited to tell you more about how our partnership with Grouper can improve your social health and well-being. If you have any questions, please reach out to Grouper's welcoming member engagement team at 833-519-1072 or visit [www.hellogrouper.com/Optimist](http://www.hellogrouper.com/Optimist) for further information.



# Master Schedule of Dues and Fees for the 2024-2025 Year *US Funds*

The US dollar is the official currency of Optimist International. All Dues and Fees are in US dollars unless specifically noted otherwise. Canadian Clubs/Members are invoiced using the published CAD currency exchange rate. The Canadian Currency exchange rate cap for 2024-2025 is 1.36.

*Effective October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2025*

## Regular Adult Members

Optimist International's dues structure for Clubs is based on the United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) and categorized into either Developed or Developing Countries.

	Developed	Developing
Annual	\$88.80	\$46.19
Semiannual	\$44.40	\$23.10
Quarterly	\$22.20	\$11.55

## College Members

Any Optimist Member who is enrolled as a full-time college student (minimum of 12 credit hours) is eligible to have their annual dues reduced. College Members in Regular Clubs pay:

	Developed	Developing
Annual	\$30.84	\$18.85
Semiannual	\$15.42	\$9.43
Quarterly	\$7.71	\$4.71

## Life Members

Life Membership Enrollment Fee: \$888.00 Developed Country, \$444.00 Developing Country.

	Developed	Developing
Annual	\$44.40	\$23.10
Semiannual	\$22.20	\$11.55
Quarterly	\$11.10	\$5.78

## Friend of Optimist

Annual \$140.00 USD/CAD (\$84.00 to Optimist International, \$56.00 to Club/District that sponsors the Member)

## New Club Charter Fee

Developed Countries	\$325.00
Developing Countries	\$225.00

## Processing Fees for New Members

Regular Members	\$15.00
College Members	\$5.00
Transfer Members	\$5.00



# New Personal Growth and Involvement Plan (PGI) Guidelines

Last night, a webinar was held to introduce the new Personal Growth and Involvement Plan (PGI) for Optimist International. Below are the new program guidelines, as well as the [list of the requirements](#) for each level.

Please note that all levels of the new PGI must be completed on the Optimist Institute. If you have been working on PGI levels in the last 5 years, take special note of #3 below.

New PGI Guidelines:

1. The new PGI program will be available online in the Optimist Institute on September 10, 2024.
2. To participate in the PGI program, each member is required to have an active account in the Optimist Institute.
3. Any current member that has completed PGI Level 3 or higher within the last 5 years will be able to start at the next level they need to complete. For those members, previous levels will be unlocked, and members have the option to complete earlier levels in part or in their entirety as desired. All other members will begin work at Level 1. Members receiving manual credit must be sure their account has been created in the Optimist Institute on or before **October 31, 2024**, and credit will be granted by November 30, 2024. If an account has not been created, credit for the completed levels cannot be granted. Those who fail to have an account by October 31, 2024, will start over at Level 1 in the program (if you have created an account in the past, you are all set – just be sure it's been renewed for this year!).
4. The levels of PGI must be completed consecutively. Upon successful completion of a level, the next level will be unlocked, as some of the work builds up to other work.
5. When completing components within each level, members must be sure to follow the verification deadlines as required for each submission, which will always be within 60 days. However,

members can take as long as they want/need to complete an entire level.

6. Certificates of completion for each PGI level can be generated through the Optimist Institute once a level is completed. Reward badges for each level will also be awarded through the Optimist Institute.
7. The Level 10 gold pinback will be sent directly to the District PGI Chair or Governor for presentation to the member, unless the OI office is informed that it should be sent to the member directly.
8. The PGI Passport, along with other forms of written documentation and verification, will no longer be accepted.

As a note, please know that the PDP will be receiving a rewrite by the Optimist International Leadership Development Committee during the 2024-2025 year, as they have been charged with this task. Because of this, the current PDP was taken offline on Sept. 10, 2024.

When it is finished, it will be relaunched on the Optimist Institute, and a webinar will be held to explain the differences between the old and new programs – just as is being done with the PGI.

If you have any questions on this new program, feel free to email [institute@optimist.org](mailto:institute@optimist.org).



The POSITIVE THINKER sees the  
INVISIBLE, feels the INTANGIBLE,  
and achieves the IMPOSSIBLE.

— Winston Churchill —

Optimist International sponsors three scholarship contests for students to earn money to pursue opportunities in higher education: The Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH), the Essay Contest and the Oratorical Contest. The contests are conducted at the Club level, then Zone and Regional (if necessary) and at the District level. District-level scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundations and awarded by Optimist International.

## OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONTESTS 2024-2025



**ORATORICAL**  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS



Topic  
"How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times"

### ORATORICAL CONTEST

Beginning in 1926, 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

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### 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



Topic  
"How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success"



**ESSAY**  
CONTEST

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**COMMUNICATION CONTEST**  
FOR THE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING



Topic  
"How Optimism Has Guided Me Through Trying Times"

### 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

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### 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.





**KIDS SPEAK OUT!**

Follow complete Official Rules posted on [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)

**NOW is the time to start your planning for these contests.**

## 2024 – 2025 Conferences and Conventions

**1st Quarter Conference** – Saturday November 9, 2024 Richard A. Carlucci Recreation and Aquatic Center, 651 Vestal Rd, Plainfield, IN 46168 9:00 EST. \$20 for registration/lunch. Hotel accommodations are at the Staybridge Inn Suites 6295 Cambridge Way, Plainfield, IN 46168 (317) 839-2700. \$119 a night with Hot Breakfast! More information to come.

**2nd Quarter North Super Conference** – Saturday January 18, 2025 Richard A. Carlucci Recreation and Aquatic Center, 651 Vestal Rd, Plainfield, IN 46168. 9:00 EST. \$20 for registration/lunch. More information to come.

**2nd Quarter South Super Conference** – Saturday January 25, 2025 Georgetown, IN 8260 IN-64, Georgetown, IN 47122. 9:00 EST. More information to come.

**3rd Quarter Conference** –Friday night and Saturday April 25 and 26 - Oratorical finals – Jasper Kimball Headquarters; 1600 Royal Street, Jasper, IN 47546. More information to come.

**4th Quarter Convention**— August 22, 23, 2025 Terre Haute Convention Center 800 Wabash Ave. Terre Haute IN. 47807. More information to come.

**Hello there, this is a simple reminder that you may begin preparing your annual Form 990 series notice or return.**

**Contact an OI Department:**

Optimist International is committed to providing professional and prompt service to Optimist volunteers and other interested parties. If you know which department you wish to contact, please check the e-mail list below.

You may also speak to a staff member in that department by calling (314) 371-6000 or (800) 500-8130 and requesting the extension listed next to each department. To speak to someone in the Optimist International Canada office, please call (514) 593-4401 or (800) 363-7151.

Awards	261	awards@optimist.org
LMS/Optimist Institute	210	
Communications/Social Media	236	communications@optimist.org
Executive Director	200	executiveoffice@optimist.org
Finance & Administration	202	finance@optimist.org
International Convention	205	convention@optimist.org
International Office	300	headquarters@optimist.org
International Programs	218	programs@optimist.org
Junior Optimist	218	youthclubs@optimist.org
Leadership / Personal Development	261	leadership@optimist.org
Marketing & Graphics	236	marketing@optimist.org
Member Services	247	clubservices@optimist.org
Membership	227	membership@optimist.org
New Club Building	227	newclub@optimist.org
Optimist Junior Golf	218	golf@optimist.org
Webmaster	209	webmaster@optimist.org
Canadian Service Centre	(800) 363.7151	CanadianService@optimist.org
Canadian Supplies	(800) 565.7062; www.optimistsupply.ca	info@optipromo.ca
Optimist Supply (US)	(800) 223.2203; www.shumsky.com	

**Contacting Optimist Leaders:**

To contact an International leader by e-mail, use their firstname.lastname followed by @optimistmail.org. For example - Cheryl Brenn: cheryl.brenn@optimist.org

## OI Foundation

Dime-A-Day Level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

The Diamond Level requires a minimum donation to the Foundation of \$100 annually and the donor receives a specially designed postcard and thank you message from the Foundation President.



Women’s Philanthropy Council (WPC) was formed in 2005 to support the work of the Optimist International Foundation. Members reach out to women as donors and assist in shaping their philanthropy. All donations raised through the giving circle of the WPC will be used to underwrite World Oratorical Championship scholarships for young women that win the Regional Contest from the US and in the Caribbean. It is important to note that your contribution to OIF designated to support the efforts of the WPC will be counted as a restricted donation and will not be credited to your annual giving or that of your District/Club. It will count towards lifetime giving.

Join the Presidents Club by making an initial unrestricted gift of \$250, and renew your membership each year by making an annual \$250 contribution. When you join, you will receive a prestigious Presidents Club lapel pin. Each year at the International Convention, you will be recognized with a ribbon for your badge and will be invited to attend a function exclusively for members.



Friends of Today make a minimum unrestricted donation of \$500 annually to the Foundation. Donors will receive a special plaque designed by a local St. Louis artist.

The Christian D. Larson Partners was adopted to recognize donors who contribute a one-time \$1,000 unrestricted gift. \*Donors may combine multiple unrestricted gifts in one Optimist fiscal year to achieve the \$1,000 level. Partners will receive a plaque presented by the DFR.

To become a member of the William H. Harrison Society, donors must have a life-to-date of \$10,000 and contribute \$1,000 annually to the Foundation. Members will be invited to attend a recognition dinner with the Foundations' Boards of Directors at the International Convention. Members also receive a ribbon noting their Membership in Society to be worn with Convention badge.

#### OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Optimist International Foundation was established on February 28, 1971.

The creators envisioned a Foundation that could provide significant funding for OI's youth and service programs and which would be proudly supported by individual Optimists, their Clubs, and the community at large.

#### WHAT OIF DOES FOR CLUBS AND DISTRICTS

- \$5,000 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTEST
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE CCDHH CONTEST
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST
- \$5,000 FOR THE REGIONAL WORLD ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNERS FOR NON-CANADIAN WINNERS

#### WHAT OIF DOES FOR CLUBS

- \$15,000 FOR THE WORLD ORATORICAL CHAMPION, \$10,000 FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE AND \$5,000 FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE FOR NON-CANADIAN WINNERS
- \$2,500 TO EACH DISTRICT FOR THE DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST
- Club Pass Through:

- If your Optimist Club is seeking grant funds or contributions for funding of your charitable community service projects or other charitable, literary or educational programs, you may request the assistance of Optimist International Foundation (OIF) as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. This program is only available in the United States. Please find the Club Pass Through Grant Program guidelines document on the Foundation website at: [oifoundation.org](http://oifoundation.org).

#### WHAT OIF DOES FOR OTHER OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH PROGRAMS

- CONTRIBUTES \$85,000 TO SUPPORT THE JOI PROGRAM
- CONTRIBUTES TO THE JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS



**Presidents Club**

The Presidents Club is a giving level that recognizes Optimists who are truly committed to the mission of the Foundation and its work to support Optimist International. By becoming a member of the Presidents Club, you are doing much more than giving a gift to change a child's life; you are making a statement that you are dedicated to the future of Optimism.

Become a member of the Presidents Club today and show your support as a steadfast Optimist and devoted friend to the Foundation. Optimist International Foundation works to raise funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International, its Clubs and its Members. The Foundation needs donors like you to continue 'Helping Optimists Help Kids'.

Join the Presidents Club by making an initial unrestricted gift of \$250, and renew your membership each year by making an annual \$250 contribution. When you join, you will receive a prestigious Presidents Club lapel pin. Each year at the International Convention, you will be recognized with a ribbon for your badge and will be invited to attend a function exclusively for members.



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Become part of an exclusive group that is  
**committed to making a difference.**

I want to join the Presidents Club!

Name (one person only) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my check made out to the Optimist International Foundation.

\_\_\_\_\_ Please deduct \$ \_\_\_\_\_ from my account monthly for \_\_\_\_\_ years. (Enclosed is my voided check)

Bank Name \_\_\_\_\_

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Routing # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please charge my credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

MC  Visa  Discover  American Express

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Presidents Club • PO Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195-2126



## Update Member Information

To ensure each Optimist Member is receiving valuable information from Optimist International, encourage each Member to update their contact information with a leader in your Club. This includes addresses, email addresses and phone numbers. Each leader (Club President, Secretary, and/or Treasurer) has a log-in for Optimist Leaders to update the Members' information.

# The Optimist Club of the Year

The Optimist Club of the Year is the highest achievement an Optimist Club can attain in the Optimist organization. The recipient of this prestigious award will be chosen regardless of number of members, or region and will be known as the “Best Overall Club” in Optimist International.



**The Optimist Club of the year award is presented annually to the most outstanding Club in the organization based on the following criteria:**

	<b>Maximum Points</b>
Service projects sponsored by the Club	30 points
Member Development Programs a year ( <i>i.e. PGI Program, Optimist International Conventions and Summit, etc.</i> )	25 points
Club Growth and Increased Community Awareness Campaigns ( <i>i.e. NOW Program, Marketing Campaign, etc.</i> )	25 points
Increased Volunteer Member Base	10 points
New Community Efforts	10 points

Points in each category will be awarded by independent judges based upon community outreach, impact on children and Members, new and innovative ideas; and benefits to the individual Club Members.

Interested Clubs are invited to submit information as outlined on the [judging form](#). Clubs can submit any materials they chose as the items relate to the specified criteria.

The Club named Overall Optimist Club of the Year will receive one round-trip airline ticket to the Optimist Convention, a banner patch, an award, and a special article in The Optimist magazine and on the Optimist website.

**Submissions:** Submit the judging form and back up documentation to Leadership@optimist.org .  
**In the email subject line include:** Club of the Year Judging Form, Club's full name, and Club Number.



We understand the importance of protecting your Optimist Club and the children you serve. IntelliCorp has partnered with Optimist International to ensure Optimist Clubs receive comprehensive and validated screening services at the lowest possible cost.

### Optimist Background Check Package

The following cost-effective screening package has been created to simplify your background check process. The package uses a combination of multiple sources of criminal record information. In addition, we validate database records by returning to the source to ensure that we have the latest updates regarding your applicant's history.

**Package Pricing: \$13.86**

**Includes:**

- Validated Criminal Database
  - Validated Nationwide Sex Offender
  - Validated Department of Corrections
- Unlimited Single County Searches (7 year address history)\*
- SSN Verification w/Address History
- Government Sanctions (Terrorist Search)

**Notes:**

\*Some courts charge a mandatory fee. These are treated as pass-through fees to our clients and are clearly highlighted before processing the search.

### Package Add-Ons

- Motor Vehicle Reports
- Employment Verifications
- Education Verifications
- Drug Testing
- Federal Criminal Searches
- Civil Searches
- I9/E-Verify
- Credit Reports



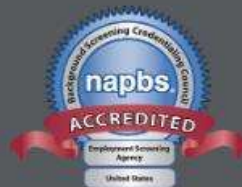
**Program Benefits:**

- Preferred pricing
- Criminal product validation
- Compliance information/online sample forms
- Personalized customer support
- System & product training sessions
- Secure online report ordering & retrieval

Please Note: Information and preferential pricing provided for U.S. Clubs only. Canadian Clubs should contact IntelliCorp for more information.

**Sign-Up Today:**

Click [here](#) and complete the first page of the registration process.



**Contact:**

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 800-539-3717 x157  
[mterrell@intellincorp.net](mailto:mterrell@intellincorp.net)  
[www.intellincorp.net](http://www.intellincorp.net)

**Club Presidents: Please make copies of this Bulletin and distribute to the members of your club.**

## Useful Web Links

### Optimist International Structure & Services:

[http://www.optimistleaders.org/LeadershipInfo/ClubInfo/ClubAnswerBook/OI\\_Structure\\_&\\_Services.pdf](http://www.optimistleaders.org/LeadershipInfo/ClubInfo/ClubAnswerBook/OI_Structure_&_Services.pdf)

### Club Organizational Model:

[http://www.optimistleaders.org/TeachingMaterials/OfficerTraining/Club\\_Organization\\_Model.pdf](http://www.optimistleaders.org/TeachingMaterials/OfficerTraining/Club_Organization_Model.pdf)

### Optimist International Foundation:

The Optimist International Foundation is a 501C3 organization whose purpose is to receive and manage funds exclusively for the charitable, literary, or educational purposes of OI and its member clubs. See website link: <http://oifoundation.org/about-us/>

Official Optimist International Supplier: Shumsky [www.OptimistStuff.com](http://www.OptimistStuff.com)



### Attention ALL Club Presidents

Presidents of all Clubs in the District serve as members of the District Board of Directors. Make sure to attend your Board meeting at every District Conference and at the Convention.

*The Southern Exposure* is published for all Optimists located in the Indiana South District, Optimist International. The editor is Paul R. Grant, 770 N County Road 625 E, Avon, IN 46123. Submissions may be sent to [p\\_grant@fastmail.fm](mailto:p_grant@fastmail.fm) and are subject to extreme editing.