



# WINUM DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

**OPTIMIST**  
INTERNATIONAL

2010-2011 Second Quarter

January 2011

## 2010-2011 Conferences /Convention

Second Quarter Conference: Apr 29 & 30 (Stevens Point)

Optimist International Convention: Jul 3-5 (Baltimore)

Convention: Aug 19 & 20 (Manitowoc)

## A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

*By: Gov Mark Sprangers*



Dear Fellow Optimists,

Karen and I hope you and your families had a Blessed and Merry Christmas and are looking forward to a prosperous and Happy New Year.



I am happy to report that we have 69 new members in the WINUM District. These are new members with new ideas to support the activities and kids of your communities. The Merrill club is out in front with 14 new members. Congratulations to Meredith and the Merrill club for their accomplishment. Many other clubs are running a close second. Maybe a membership contest is in the offing.

Have you and your club been **“On Track For The Kids”**? One of the main **tracks** for the year is making new members feel welcome and getting them involved in their new club. Many clubs have taken this track. These new members have made a new commitment in their lives and we must help them get the most out of this new experience. New members bring new ideas and new energy which will help renew our own optimist energy. The second **track** is assessing the club’s current activities. The clubs that have taken this track have realized the benefits of evaluating their club’s activities. Some have made changes, others have adopted new projects. What track are you on?

January 29<sup>th</sup> is the date of the Executive Meeting to be held in Stevens Point at the Ramada Inn. Even though this is not a general membership meeting, the input from the membership is welcome. If you have a topic that you would like discussed at this meeting please contact your Lt. Governor or me with your topic. No guarantees that all topics will be presented or discussed but they will be evaluated. More meeting details will be following and be available through your Lt. Governor.

*Continued on page 2*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...Be Sure To See:

Our 2010-2011 Team	4	Essay Contest Info	9
Zone Reports	10 thru 14	Oratorical Contest Info	15
OI Convention Info	16, 17	Awards & Achievements Info	15
OI Convention Registration	18, 19	Gov. Elect Message	7

**GOVERNORS MESSAGE** *(Continued from page 1)*

*By: Mark Sprangers*

The 2nd conference of the year will be held on April 29 and 30 at the Ramada Inn in Stevens Point. Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend. The highlights of the weekend include the Oratorical competition and presentation of the winning speeches and the readings presented by the winners of the Essay contest. These contests are two of the many reasons we do what we do; why we are Optimists. The weekend concludes Saturday evening with the annual awards and recognitions dinner presented by Immediate Past Governor John.

With the cold months ahead, while sitting in front of the fireplace or just watching TV think about which track you will take next. Will you take the **membership track** and bring in new energy and excitement to your club? Will you be on the **activities track** and get involved in making your club a better club, reaching out to more kids of the community. Either track will make you a better Optimist.

Or, maybe it is time to get on a **third track** and take a ride to a community that does not have an Optimist Club. This is always an exciting ride with great benefits. The kids of the community will thank you again and again.

Thanks for everything you do for the kids and all I ask of you is to.....

**“Stay On Track For The Kids”**

Governor Mark

**Junior Golf**

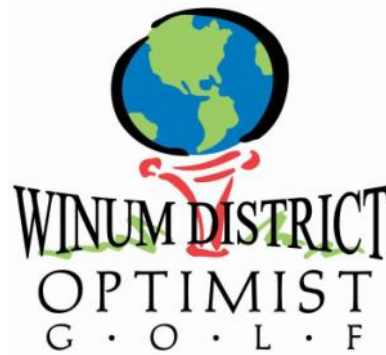
*By: Gary Garton*

The snow is piled high, temps have dipped low, golf clubs have been stored away! So, Now's the time to start thinking about your club and its youth activities...such as a club Junior Golf Tournament. That's right, a golf tournament for youth in your area to participate in and perhaps qualify to play in the WINUM District Junior Qualifying Tournament and from there move on to the Optimist International Tournament in Florida.

Junior Golf tournaments are a lot of fun and require relatively little in the way of hours and volunteers needed. The WINUM District Tourney location and date are yet to be determined but hopes are to hold them in mid-district about mid June to comply with Optimist International requirements. Gary Prigge of Manitowoc has agreed to assist with the 2011 District Tournament. We are hoping for the largest number of boy and girl participants to ever participate. I will be in touch with each club as soon as date and place are determined.

To organize your clubs junior golf tourney contact me by e-mail or phone for assistance.

Yours in Optimism,  
Gary Garton, 715-723-8064  
optimistgary@sbcglobal.net



**International Vice President's Message***By: Gloria Kloster*

Dear WINUM Friends,

It doesn't seem possible that a month has already passed since I had the privilege of visiting your First Quarterly Meeting in Green Bay – how do the days disappear so quickly? Thank you again for your hospitality – and especially thank you for all that you do for the children in your communities!

As I write this, there's a gentle snow falling. The house is nearly decorated (with the family room tree proudly wearing my new WINUM ornament!). The kitchen is festooned with little snips of paper and ribbon left over from an afternoon spent helping the grandchildren select and wrap their gifts for their parents. Our three- year-old neighbor girl and her daddy delivered a big plate of cookies tonight that she says she baked all by herself (looks to me like mommy might have helped a bit!). Our resident bunny is in the back yard, having a snack of corn and making tracks in the sparkling snow. It's definitely beginning to look a lot like Christmas here at the Kloster's! Whatever special holiday you celebrate at this wonderful time of the year, I hope that your homes and lives are also filled with such beautiful, simple pleasures! And when our holidays are over and the New Year dawns, there are exciting things in store for us in our Optimistic world!

If you haven't yet given the children in your community the gift of a new Optimist member, there couldn't be a better time. And if you also welcome two new Friends of Optimists between January 1<sup>st</sup> and the end of June, that new member's International dues will be free for their first year of service!

To match our "newly renovated" weekly Executive Updates, Hotline and Optimist Magazine, there will be a whole new look and ease of navigation unveiled on our Optimist International website, as well as exciting new online training opportunities that will start with our Club Presidents and expand from there!

There's another change coming as well. The "traditional" January Governor's Conference has been replaced with something a little different: this year it will be held in New Orleans in March, and the only Districts that will be represented will be those that have fulfilled their financial obligations and met 30% of their growth goals (set by their individual governors) by January 31<sup>st</sup>. I know that you want Governor Mark to represent the great WINUM District in New Orleans – but he can't do that without your help! So let's turn in those new members, and welcome some more. Let's invite some Friends of Optimists to join our ranks; or give the gift of a "Friend"-ship to a local individual or business that supports your club's projects. Let's finish up the new clubs that are in the works, so they can start serving new children. And let's pay those first quarter District and International dues. We've got till January 31<sup>st</sup> to meet 30% of Governor Mark's growth goal – although everyone would breathe a little easier if we didn't take it quite that close to the wire! Let's make sure that WINUM is represented in the Big Easy!

Peace and love to you and yours,

Gloria Kloster

International Vice President, Great Plains Region

(I may be prejudiced...but I think we should be named "The GREATEST Plains Region"!)



## OUR "ON TRACK" LEADERSHIP TEAM

<b>District Governor:</b> Mark Sprangers	<b>Immediate Past Governor:</b> John VanBeek
<b>Past Governor:</b> Thad Streeter	<b>Governor Elect:</b> Sue Van Dreser
<b>District Secretary:</b> Jo Ann Gustavson	<b>District Treasurer:</b> Mark Miller
<b>A &amp; A:</b> Deb Braden	<b>Newsletter:</b> Charlie Pufahl
<b>Conferences/Convention:</b> Laurel Schirmer	<b>Essay Contest:</b> Charlie Place
<b>Oratorical contest:</b> Diane Simon	<b>Finance:</b> Thad Streeter
<b>Junior golf:</b> Gary Garton	<b>Leadership Development:</b> John Leonhard
<b>PGI / Fund Raising:</b> Romey Wagner	<b>New Club Development:</b> Jann Van Dreser
<b>Supply:</b> Roni Kaczor-Smith	<b>CCDHH:</b> ((vacant))
<b>Membership:</b> Alice Baldini	<b>OIF/CCC:</b> Ken Eirich
<b>JOOI Clubs:</b> Judy Goodchild	<b>Scrapbook:</b> Terry Weber
<b>Webmaster:</b> Andy Scott	<b>District Photographer:</b> Al Udovich
<b>Convention Ambassador:</b> John VanBeek	<b>First Timers:</b> Scott Schneider
<b>CPA:</b> Jo Ann Gustavson	<b>Internet Safety:</b> Sue Van Dreser

## YOUR "ON TRACK" Lt. Governors

<b>Zone 1:</b> Sue Carlson, Hallie	<b>Zone 2:</b> Mary Kay Mills, Neillsville
<b>Zone 3:</b> Thad Streeter, Everest Area	<b>Zone 4:</b> Dan O'Leary, Green Bay-Howard Suamico
<b>Zone 5:</b> Mel Polarek, Green Bay	<b>Zone 6:</b> Mel Shafel, Green Bay-Sunrise
<b>Zone 7:</b> Ann Sheahan , Two Rivers	<b>Zone 8:</b> Michael D. Larsen, Appleton
<b>Zone 9:</b> Gary Prigge, Manitowoc	<b>Zone 10:</b> Jim Scharf, North Fond du Lac
<b>Zone 11:</b> Scott Stangel, Sheboygan Noon	

*You can find complete contact information for everyone listed above (Plus a whole lot more) in the 2010-2011 District Directory which can be found on our website at*

**[www.winum.com](http://www.winum.com)**

**A Message from our Convention Ambassador***By: John VanBeek**Optimists of the Great WINUM District...*

It's the middle of winter here in the WINUM District and some Optimist Clubs have had more than 2 feet of snow and temps at or below -20 more than once this winter. Now that's the GLASS THAT'S HALF EMPTY!

Now let's talk about the GLASS THAT'S HALF FULL - Baltimore, Maryland in July, 2011. Baltimore is the Host City for the 2011 Optimist International Convention. Just think balmy temps in the 70's and 80's and a water taxi available right from your Hotel.

For more details and registration form (*it is a 2 sheet form*), see pages (16-20) of this Newsletter.

John VanBeek  
Convention Ambassador

**The MEMBERSHIP COUCH***By: Alice Baldini***NEW MEMBERS ARE THE ENGINES**

New members bring new energy and new ideas. New members truly are the engines that keep our clubs "On Track for the Kids." Bet you never of thought of it like that before!

Congratulations to Zones 2, 3, 8, 9 and 11. They have increased their zone membership since October 1, 2010. Way to keep "On Track for the Kids!" I am thinking there may very well be a zone competition before the year is over!

As promised in the last issue of the newsletter, the explanation of the "Membership Couch" is as follows: as membership chairperson, one may believe that one person is responsible for membership. That simply is not true. Every Optimist is responsible for adding new members and thus it is that a couch would be more appropriate. I invite you to join me on the "couch" and keep adding the engines (new members) that will keep our clubs "On track for the kids."

Next issue - look for "The Tale of Two Clubs."

Alice Baldini  
2010-2011 Membership chair

**2010 Optimist International Convention***By: Laurel Schirmer*

# Save the Date!

**Personal Growth & Involvement (P.G.I.) Program***By: Romey Wagner***Personal Growth & Involvement (P.G.I.) Program**

There are many benefits to becoming an Optimist. And since "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" is the consensus top benefit, the Optimist International Personal Growth & Involvement (P.G.I.) program ranks a cool second. Where else can you become a more knowledgeable volunteer?

The P.G.I. program offers every Optimist member the opportunity to learn more about Optimism while advancing through 10 levels of involvement, leadership growth and achievement.

The P.G.I. program will make you a better volunteer. Through communication training, self-development modules and other personal growth activities, Optimist International is giving you a fantastic opportunity to continue to learn and grow into a leader.

For additional P.G.I. information, go to the P.G.I. section of the Optimist Leaders website or contact the Leadership Development Department at (800) 500-8130, ext. 261, or by e-mail at [leadership@optimist.org](mailto:leadership@optimist.org).

OR Contact Me: Romey Wagner, District PGI Chair

[romeyw@msn.com](mailto:romeyw@msn.com)

(cell) 715-571-2901 (home) 715-848-5506

## Internet Safety - Governor Elect Message

By: Sue Van Dreser

### Happy Holidays WINUM Optimists!



## Internet Safety



It is my hope that clubs will take advantage of the great Internet Safety program that Optimist International and I-Keep Safe has put together for us. Personally, I have shared the program information with the building principal at my school and we plan to use it, or parts of it, at a future parent night. Other groups have put programs together, but ours comes complete with script and high quality/high interest DVDs! Please let me know if you have questions, would like a club level program, or would like information to secure copies of the program. I am here to assist you as the Internet Safety Chair for WINUM.

On another note....it is a thrill to begin the process of assembling the 2011-2012 WINUM District Team! I have approached and secured many brilliant members for committee chairs, and am now on to seeking the dedicated and enthusiastic (and brilliant, too) to serve as Lt. Governors. Planning for team training in late July has been started and promises to ensure your readiness to hit the ground running as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. Won't you please consider joining the team? I have a list of phone calls to make, as the talent is easy to see. If I call you – please say YES! Better yet....make the first move and call me. I will do everything to help find the best fit for you. I am committed to having the team in place by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Please help our developing team reach this first goal!

See your celebrations with the eyes of a child. Hope you had a wonderful holiday!

Sue Van Dreser  
715-344-1976  
Internet Safety Chair  
Governor-Elect 2010-2011

## Scrapbook Tips

By: Terry Weber

Those who were able to hear Dawn Hilliker, Scrapbook Chair, at the First Quarter conference picked up some really helpful tips. If you've never made a history of your club's events, this might be the year to do it. For starters, cut out every newspaper article that relates your club's participation. Make 12 folders, one for each month, and put anything newsworthy, pictures (labeled), programs from conferences, zone meetings, etc., in them. Be sure to label newspaper articles with the date & name of the newspaper. Ask your club members to bring newspaper clippings from papers that you yourself don't subscribe to. Think of yourself as the club's Yearbook editor. If you go about gathering information now, then when you have time, start to organize the information.

Don't know where to start? Look on the district website ([www.winum.com](http://www.winum.com)) for the competition rules which will give you a really good idea on how to organize your material. You don't have to be a 'scrapbooker' to put this together. It's a way to get recognition for your club and to make a pictorial history of your club year.

You may e-mail me, Terry Weber, if you have questions: [ktweber@frontier.com](mailto:ktweber@frontier.com)

Scrapbooks are due at the First Quarter conference in November, 2011

**Optimist International Foundation***By: Ken Eirich***OIF > IT IS YOURS, IT IS FOR THE KIDS, IT IS OURS  
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION**

What a great start to the year for the Optimist International Foundation. At first conference in November of 2010 we raised over \$2700.00 towards our goal of \$12,000. Thanks to all who have donated for the lunch time raffle. Thanks again for your continued support.

As with every conference we are still looking for donation items for our lunch time raffle. If you have any items that are worthwhile for the raffle please bring them along to the May conference.

We all know there are many reasons to contribute to the foundation. The biggest reason is for the kids. Through the foundation's unrestricted funds, we are able to operate as optimist clubs. We also receive training, sponsor programs, and are able to award scholarships for the kids

In addition to the kids, many of the foundations benefits are extended to the clubs. The biggest benefit is the pass through grant program, which gives tax deductible status to donations from business that want to give to your club. There are also programs to help fund start up projects for your club. If you are interested in any of the programs that the foundation has please stop and ask me or call me at (920) 627-6528 and I will be more than happy to give you information.

If you have any questions on any of these programs just find me or send me an email and I will be glad to help you through the process. (Please note I have a new email address)

Thanks again for all you do at the district level as well as in your clubs.

Ken Eirich

WINUM District Foundation Representative

[keneirich1962@yahoo.com](mailto:keneirich1962@yahoo.com)



**OPTIMIST ESSAY CONTEST**

By: Charlie Place



### Preparation should start early!

It's that time of year again where participating clubs should start preparing for the District Essay Contests. This year the topic will be, "How my Education is the Key to a Successful Future".

I'm looking forward to another stellar performance from our clubs. Last years winner, Julia Sprangers, went on to place 2nd nationally and received a \$2500 scholarship for winning the WINUM district and \$3750 for her 2nd place national finish.

The deadline for the District Contest is February 28, 2011. Each club's winning entry must be submitted to me before this date. Entry qualifications, details and applications can be found by contacting me or going to the Optimist international web site at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org). This web site is really well put together and you'll find so much on it to help you organize and run a successful contest.

Any questions you have or help I can give please contact me. I can be reached at:

Charlie Place, District Essay Chair  
c/o Holden Insurance Agency P.O. Box 459  
Superior, WI 54880  
[cplace\(@JIOldeninsurance.com](mailto:cplace(@JIOldeninsurance.com)  
715-394-7741 (work)  
715-392-8390 (home)



### *In Sympathy*

Ronald E. Brien, 57, of Fond du Lac, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2010, as the result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Washington County. He was past President of Fond du Lac Noon club, past Lt. Governor (Distinguished), past District Secretary-Treasurer, past chairman of Finance, New Club Building, and Awards and Achievements.

*Our deepest sympathy to family, friends and fellow Optimists, you are all in your prayers.*

## Lieutenant Governor Zone Reports

### ZONE 1: Lt. Gov. Sue Carlson

News flash – here's what's been happening in the zone. . . . . The **Chippewa Club** has been busy. They delivered dictionaries to all the local elementary schools. The Chippewa High School and the McDonnell High School Foreign Exchange students helped decorate our float for the Christmas parade. The Chippewa Club took first place for the parade theme of "A Very Patriotic Christmas. They also spent a day ringing bells for the Salvation Army at their local grocery store. The **River Falls Club** held their Charter Banquet in October. Recently, they adopted one of the Christmas Sharing families; and purchased the requested gifts. They participated in the Business Expo and used that opportunity to let the community know who they are; and handed out apples as a healthy snack. They have one of their members facilitating a group of students at Rocky Branch Elementary school; as they explore the "9 Positive Traits." Their last meeting as of this writing was a "Holiday Social". The **Superior Club** sent two members to the Parallel District Conference in Minneapolis the first weekend in November. They are making plans to implement some information shared at the conference regarding NOW meetings. They helped the Salvation Army have a great kick-off by raising over \$220 at a regular club meeting; they also participated in bell ringing for the Salvation Army. They "crossed the bridge" and met with the Duluth Optimist club; and are making plans to have the Duluth club come to visit them. They have 43 members and are working to bring that up to 50. The **Hudson Optimist Club** meets every other week. They have completed several projects and are exploring a different meeting time to encourage more member participation. They are working through the "forming, storming, norming and then performing" stages of development. The core group seems to be moving into the "storming" stage, defining itself and its intentions. They held a joint meeting with the **River Falls club** when the Richfield, Minnesota club visited. The **Hallie Optimist Club** was very "Optimistic". They held their Breakfast with Santa on the Saturday of the "big snow storm." Although participation was light – the Optimists had a great time with Santa! They spent an entire day ringing the bells for the Salvation Army at their local Wal-mart. Plans are underway for their annual Christmas party right after the first of the year. And, they are looking into new fund raising ideas at the Mall of America, in order to participate in the Dictionary project at two local elementary schools. The **Durand Optimist Club** has completed their Dictionary project to all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and Thesauruses to all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in Pepin County. They purchased banners for the **River Falls Club** and attended the Charter Banquet in October. They donated \$\$ to the Durand Theatre for the Halloween movie. They hosted the annual Craft Festival; held a Christmas luncheon and are currently doing their Christmas Raffle to fulfill the "Christmas Wishes". The **Menomonie Club** served milk and cookies at the public library which included a visit by Santa. They sponsored a float in their local "Holidaze" parade and had 20 or so middle school kids on the float singing Christmas carols. They are working with the Menomonie Middle school to expand their Youth of the Month program into the middle school and will be forming a JOOI Club after the first of the year. And, they inducted 10 new members at their December meeting! No news from the Eau Claire club! Rich and I hope that you each had a very Merry Christmas; and the happiest New Year! The **Eau Claire Optimist** have completed their "Adopt a Family" for the Christmas season. They purchased and delivered gifts for three families in the Eau Claire Area.

### ZONE 2: Lt. Gov. Mary Kay Mills

Happy 2011 to all WINUM District Optimists! Zone 2 clubs are "on track" with fellowship and a variety of service to their communities. **Wausau Noon** participated in "Kid's Voting" on Election Day to encourage youth to participate in the electoral process. They've also completed dictionary distribution and collected food for the Salvation Army. **Everest Area** Optimists distributed 429 dictionaries to DC Everest area third graders, treated 550 to a free Youth Appreciation movie with popcorn and soda also free and assisted in the collection of 500 lbs. of food for area food pantries. Their annual Christmas Party meeting includes a fun White Elephant gift exchange. The **Breaking Boundaries Optimist Club** held a successful poinsettia sale fund raiser and are busy preparing for an after Christmas children's event that will teach kids dances from their native countries and award donated teddy bears to those that participate in the dancing.

*Zone 2 report Continued on page 11*

## Lieutenant Governor Zone Reports

*Continued from page 10*

(*ZONE 2 Continued*) The **Neillsville Club** helped wrap gifts and provided a pot luck dinner for community members working on the "Angel Tree" Project which provides holiday gifts and food to area needy families. Their Youth Appreciation program honored outstanding Boy Scouts. **Stevens Point** Optimists have added 2 new members and enjoyed a Christmas party featuring a baked goods auction with proceeds going toward Toys for Tots. The **Marshfield** Optimist Club will be updating their website and creating a Facebook page, accessible even without a Facebook profile. **Wisconsin Rapids** members sponsored a job shadowing experience for area high school juniors. About 175 students visit 45 different businesses in a variety of career fields and upon completion of the program can compete for one of three 1,000 scholarships. **Stevens Point/Plover** distributed dictionaries and collected funds for a Holiday Basket. Congrats to the **Mosinee** Optimist Club as they will be featured in "The Optimist" magazine!! Their October Scavenger Hunt was based on a real life game of Clue with over 200 youth solving the mystery of "Who broke and robbed our piggy bank".

### ZONE 3: Lt. Gov. Thad Streeter

Zone 3, also known as "The Great White North", has shown continued positive growth and is currently +3 in its membership standings at 221 with a start of 218 at the beginning of the Optimist year in October. The growth leader is **Merrill** with 14 new members and 2 deletes for a net of +12! **Prentice**: 15 members, reported \$544 in sales from Shopping with Santa and \$500 being donated to the Prentice Food Pantry. The club Christmas party will be held in January or February. **Tomahawk**: 14 members, reported a number of names collected at the Quitting Time social event in November. These will be followed up for membership. Work is currently being done on an Informational Brochure for the club. A community sponsored Chili Fundraiser was worked with support from the club and the \$300 raised was matched by the club to support the Back Pack program. A donation was also given in support of the Rockets for Schools Team. **Wausau Breakfast**: 46 members, well attended Installation Banquet. Two members running for Judge, both are past presidents, local attorneys, and friends. Nothing like getting to know the candidates! Annual Winter Snowmobile Odyssey happening again this year. **Antigo**: 62 members, sold cheese curds at December Chili Cook-off. Christmas movie with Food Pantry donation as price of admission. Optimist sponsored Christmas Concert by Antigo High School Honors Choir. Breakfast with Santa. Holiday open swim, I hope it's indoors! **Merrill**: 84 members, White Elephant gift exchange. Well attended Installation Banquet. Breakfast with Santa and a movie. Up coming events include an Evening Social and co-sponsoring Business After Hours. Donated \$500 to the After the Bell Program. Has added eight new Optimists since October 1!

### ZONE 4: Lt. Gov. Dan O'Leary

**Howard / Suamico**: The Club Float won the trophy for the "Lion's Award" in the Christmas Parade and received a lot of coverage from Fox 11 news. 45 Christmas stockings filled with toys, candy etc. along with 45 monopoly Games donated by one of our Members were delivered to St Vincent's Hospital for the Children in the cancer Center that will be spending Christmas in the hospital. 20 Members provided Christmas caroling to (3) local nursing/assisted living facilities and provided each Resident with a Christmas Gift and card from the Club, over 200 Gifts were handed out. They are currently in the process of preparing for our February annual Pancake/Porky Breakfast fundraiser. This is their largest fundraiser and involves the majority of our Members. **Shawano Optimist Club**: The first quarter this year was a busy one! They wrapped up our rose sale and our packer ticket raffle – both quite successful! They held a Tri-Star football competition in October having 45 kids participate. Our "Christmas Movie" event held at our local movie theatre netted over 500 pounds of canned food for our local food pantry with 450 kids seeing a free movie! Planning is underway for the girls and boys basketball tournaments in January and February respectively. They are hoping to continue our reputation for great concessions, wonderful competition and that ever-present, optimistic attitude of great teamwork as hundreds of kids come to our events! Internally, the technology and NOW Membership committees are taking off and we hope to share in each others fellowship at our Holiday House Hop in January.

*Zone reports Continue on page 12*

## Lieutenant Governor Zone Reports

*Continued from page 11*

### ZONE 5: Lt. Gov. Mel Polarek

**Phoenix – GB:** The club will be doing Adopt A Family for Christmas, volunteered at Wild Life sanctuary event, CP Telethon and made blankets for kids. Currently working on fund raising projects that will allow them the opportunity to take part in more programs. **Preble – GB:** Club currently working on Terror On The Fox haunted house fundraiser, we are hoping for 20,000 visitors this year. We are also sponsoring a booth at Sweet Street at Shopko Hall. **Wed Noon Holiday Inn:** Club will be carrying balloon in GB holiday parade; will also be doing the Adopt A Family program for the holidays. They also sponsored boys & girls baseball, the “Just Say No Project”, Oratorical competition and are selling Packers year books as a fund raiser. **Monday Noon Hotel Sierra:** Sponsored Hersey track meet with 180 area youth competing, event takes place 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in June. Currently selling raffle tickets for Packers tickets & Christmas wreaths as a fund raiser. The club currently has 17 members. **Allouez Wed Noon:** Club also sponsored a booth at Sweet Street and will be doing Christmas baskets for families in need. The club also donated \$500 to each Allouez school for Junior Achievement. Other programs include taking are kids to dinner & a UWGB Women’s basketball game, the Pal’s program at Bellin Health & the Miracle league baseball program. Upcoming fund raiser will be the St. Patrick’s raffle, this year they also had the car show at Green Isle park & Walk A Mile for kids program.

### ZONE 6: Lt. Gov. Mel Shafel

**Depere Optimist Club:** Membership holding at 30. Busy working on Christmas boxes and coats for the needed. Plans are underway for the annual Pancake / porky Breakfast to be held in February. Will be extending the Scholarships to 4 \$1000.00. Boy and girl at each of the East and West High Schools. **Bellevue - Eastown Optimist Club:** Membership holding at 28. Had a very nice turnout for the Trick or Treat Trail. The 330 kids attending got lots of candy and a pumpkin. Also received a balloon from a clown. Cute customs. St. Jude’s Children Hospital will benefit from the donation of 50% of the food sale profit at the event. **Green Bay- Ashwaubenon Optimist Club:** Membership down 3 since the start of the new year. Participated in the Oktoberfest activities. They are shopping for needy families for Christmas. A list of needs are given to the club by the school principal and guidance councilor and a member shops one on one with their needs. Each child gets at least one toy. \$5000.00 is allocated for this project. **Greenleaf- Wrightstown Optimist Club:** Membership holding a 38. Club is busy with their Packer Game beer stand. Their main fund raiser. Also winding up the annual Christmas Wreath Sale. Active with the Octagon club.

### ZONE 7: Lt. Gov. Ann Sheahan

What an exciting time of year to be an Optimist!! With the 1<sup>st</sup> qtr of our Optimist New Year behind us; you will see many great projects that were completed and many on the horizon just waiting for the train to stop at the station for the kids in our communities in Zone 7 to participate. ALL ABOARD!!!! **Algoma Optimist:** completed their Halloween Walk project and Santa Readers. Santa Readers consisted of them partnering with their local recreation dept. and had one club member dress up as Mrs. Santa and read stories to the children; they also had cookies and punch for the kids. Their next project will be a donation to the “Opera for Youth” at the local elementary school. **Kewaunee Optimist:** geared up for the local Christmas Parade in November where they made a float; then they will sponsor a tubing hill kids day event; where they will cover half the cost of the tubing hill for all kids who want to sled on a day in late January or early February. (I brought my Girl Scout Troop last year and they had a blast!) **Manitowoc Noon Optimist:** are currently sponsoring a student of the month; they take 3 or 4 students from the local schools recommended by the school staff and treat them and their parents to a pizza luncheon. They continue to operate Bingo night once a month and it is a great fundraiser for their club. They also had their first time fundraiser event with the local Clipper City Chordsmen and received a nice profit from that event. **Manitowoc Sunrise Optimist:** completed their annual Art in the Park event and had a nice crowd despite the rainy cold weather in early Oct.

*Zone 7 report Continued on page 13*

## Lieutenant Governor Zone Reports

*Continued from page 12*

*(ZONE 7 Continued)* Next they had a Santa Skate at the local roller skating rink where kids get to skate with Santa and get a nice treat bag. This year they have a President of the Month; which so far is working great! When no one wants to take on a whole year of leadership this is a very successful way to keep the club going and active. Algoma has been doing this for years and it works for them too. **St. Norbert College Club:** has been very busy since school started. They have completed some Bears for Bucks fundraisers at their school volleyball and football games. They helped out at several Halloween events and started after school tutoring at an elementary school nearby. They also started a NEW project called "Smiley Mail". At each meeting they make cards that give happy or positive messages; then they mail them to a local school with a cover letter explaining to them to hand out these cards to kids that need a happy message or did something good or just for being themselves. Their goal is to get a package to each of the 25 schools in Green Bay. They also have 13 new members but haven't put them on the books/website yet. They are now adjourned for winter break and will get back together in late January to continue their great work with the kids in their community! Way to go SNC!! **Sturgeon Bay Optimist:** is still out there, but not meeting at this time. Hopefully we can get some communication going with them soon. **Silver Lake College:** is struggling to get through another year. We hope to get some new members in there soon and a project or two under their belts so they can see the great things Optimist do for the kids!! Hopefully it will be some positive news in the next newsletter! **Two Rivers Optimist Club:** installed their Officers and completed a very successful 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Empty Bowls" event. They know the project is growing because this year they sold out of bowls to be painted in the community and were able to donate over \$3000.00 to the local food pantry. Their next project completed was Christmas shopping for needy children that use the food pantry; they partner with the High School Octagon club with financing and shopping; a fun event for all! A fun social every year is a Christmas Party where a white elephant gift is exchanged along with stealing the unwrapped gift and loads of laughter. They are looking for a new fundraising event as they no longer participate at Lambeau Field in the concession stand. Most members miss the gatherings and exchange of friendships; but no one misses the cold or 12 hour days!

### ZONE 8: Lt. Gov. Mike Larsen

**Kaukauna-Heart of the Valley:** conducted their annual dinner to celebrate Youth Appreciation with OI clubs from **Greenleaf and Wrightstown** and honored 49 area high school students and their parents and school representatives. **Neenah-Menasha:** donated personally and supported a fund raiser event for the Erik Olsen Benefit, an area resident with a blood clotting disorder and volunteered for the basketball program at the Boys & Girls Brigade. This club generated significant additional funding through among others, participation in the Upper Midwest Soccer Classic and Quarry Quest. This allowed them to donate checks in support of, among others, The Arc, Best Friends, Boys & Girls Brigade, Youth-GO, Snack-Pack for Kids, and the Neenah Fun Run. Their generosity included a donation to the OI Foundation. **Oshkosh:** among a very busy schedule of fund raising and worthy cause donations, also support the OI essay contest which they conduct in January. They also conduct an OI oral contest. Other club activities include, but are not limited to manning a tent at Sawdust daze, marching in the Oshkosh Christmas parade, and Salvation Army Bell Ringing. Oshkosh also adopts children afflicted with cancer and continually raise funds for this child and her parents. **Appleton's"** fund raising, among others, include an annual golf outing, and participation in food booths at Quarry Quest and Appleton's Octoberfest celebration. These funds are distributed annually to those in need in the area including, but not limited to the Boys & Girls Club, youth programs at the YMCA, and the Salvation Army for whom they also participate in the Bell Ringing Campaign. They maximize their gifts by donating on dates where they receive matching funds from Thrivent Financial. They also support other local organizations including but not limited to The Community Clothes Closet, Harbor House, OI Youth Appreciation, and The Emergency Shelter.

*Zone reports Continue on page 14*

*Hindsight is good, foresight is better, but insight is the best of all.*

## Lieutenant Governor Zone Reports

*Continued from page 13*

### ZONE 9: Lt. Gov. Gary Prigge

Zone 9...is really fine...thank you, The entire zone is in the best Holiday spirit, it makes all of us associated with Optimist very proud of their work. The big event in **Kiel** was the celebration of their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The dinner was well attended and it is truly amazing what they have accomplished in the past 30 years. Two very active charter members made the evening unforgettable. I was honored to be present. They of course continue to help the kids in so many ways, such as the Safe Assured Program. Good job Kiel. **Brillion** is getting ready for one of their biggest projects , Pizza Day, they have the workers, the dates, the pizza know how and it will be a big success again. They also have handed out some scholarships, have excellent programs and are signing new members. **Chilton** : WOW...what a busy club, a few highlights....Letters to Santa, received over 70, all to be answered, the Light Ride for the elderly is a program to help those unable to view the city lights , have that opportunity. They actually had a very successful brat fry, and of course they have some very interesting program. **New Holstein, Sherwood and Hilbert Potter** : Three clubs that do all of the right things for the kids in their communities. Low membership does not stop them because they have almost 100% helping on every project. Why wouldn't you want to be a member of the clubs in Zone Nine. Happy Holidays form my Zone Nine Optimist family to the rest of the wonderful WINUM District.

### ZONE 10: Lt. Gov. Jim Scharf

The season is off and running , The **Fond du Lac Evening Club** is starting their year with bingo for the winter season. They are Bell Ringing for the local Salvation Army in Fond du Lac on December 10 from 4-8 PM with a chili night to fallow Also sponsoring a Christmas Party for the Boys and Girls Club December 21. The **Fond du Lac Noon Club** is right on track to proceed with the planning for the sledding hill on the UW Campus. They have been in the process of celebrating the Christmas Season with each other and the children of the city. The **North Fond du Lac Club** just got done with their fund raiser and it was a huge success again. It will fund all projects in the Village. The club helped with the Halloween project, had around 400 children involved. They helped the N. Fond du Lac Police Benevolent Food drive and also helped the needed families that struggle with the holiday season within the school system. There in the works to celebrate the Christmas season with members and their spouses. The New Year will start with a new member chili night on January 20<sup>th</sup> All Zone 10 clubs are on the same track as before to keep children in mind. I would like to say Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

### ZONE 11: Lt. Gov. Scott Stangel

Zone 11 is off to a very busy start to the Optimist year. All the clubs in the zone had the great fortune of having Governor Mark at their installation banquet. Mark took the opportunity to discuss his year, "On Track for the Kids". He must have made an impression because all clubs in the zone are supporting their communities with wonderful programming for the kids. Projects include bell ringing for Salvation Army, assisting kids with Christmas gift wrapping for less fortunate families, and easy contests. Fundraising has also been very brisk. The **Sheboygan Noon** club had their annual Pancake Day, **Oostburg** is doing its annual Quilt and birthday calendar sale, the **Plymouth Club** finished a summer of working a concession stand at Road America, and the **Sheboygan Evening Club** sold Packer yearbooks and hosted Hobo Night. The highlight of the first quarter was a great zone meeting held at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum. With the support of the Noon Club, all in attendance were treated to a personal museum tour by the museum director. The meeting included instruction for club presidents and a challenge from Lt. Governor Scott to adopt Optimist International's Internet Safety program as a zone project.

This is the first time since the 2005-06 year that all Lt. Governors submitted reports...THANKS MUCH LT. GOVS

## Awards & Achievements

By: Deb Braden



Well, a new Optimist Year means a new year of reporting your Awards and Achievement. You might ask why is completing the A&A form important? The items on the form indicate the health of your club. The reporting clubs show growth in membership, the amount of service projects and involvement at the zone and district levels. Great club leadership makes for great service to the youth in your communities.

The form is very easy to fill out and shows everyone how each club is serving the young people in their area. The form is available on line under the District Forms page ([www.winum.com](http://www.winum.com)). If you are unable to load the form please feel free to contact me and I will email you the form or snail mail you the form.

The first installment of A & A is due January 15, 2011. Please take part in this worthwhile program and make this an awesome Optimist year.

Remember we do this for the Kids ~ *Optimists Bringing Out the Best in Kids!*

Deb Braden

District Awards & Achievements Chair

[bradendm@chipfalls.k12.wi.us](mailto:bradendm@chipfalls.k12.wi.us)

(715) 723-5305

## Oratorical Contest Comments



First conducted in 1928, this is the second most popular Optimist International Program. Nearly 2,000 clubs participate in this program each year. The winners at the Club level receive medallions and Zone winners receive a plaque. Districts have the opportunity to provide two \$2,500 scholarships or a first place scholarship of \$2,500, a second place scholarship of \$1,500, and a third place scholarship of \$1,000.

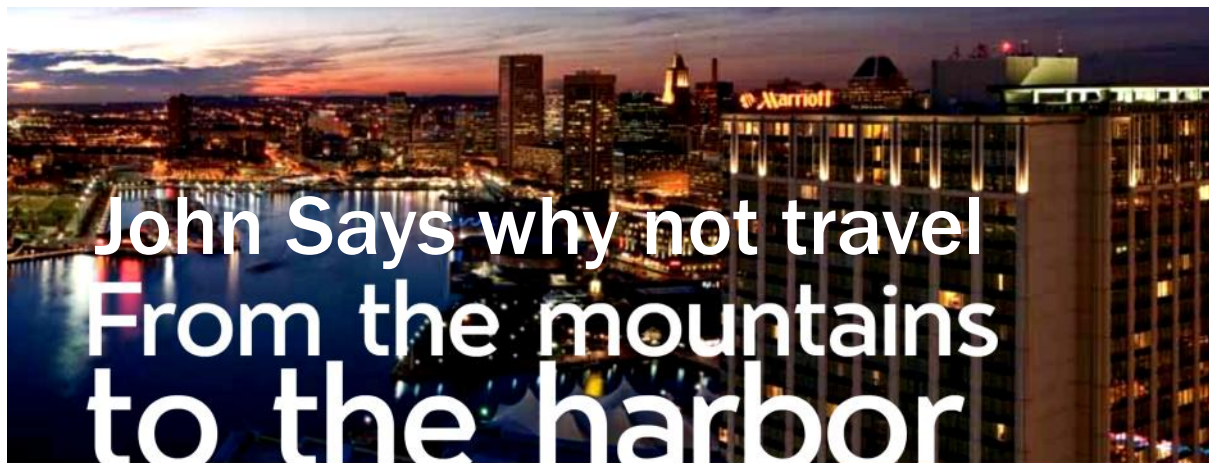
The Oratorical Contest gives youngsters the chance to speak to the world. The topic this year is "If I Were Leader of the Free World, the First Issue I Would Address Would be ...". More than \$150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundations is awarded annually from this program.

Students under the age of 19 years as of December 31, 2010 and who are educated in the United States, Canada or the Caribbean are eligible to enter.

All clubs in the District that are conducting a contest will have the chance to have club winners compete in the District competition to be held during the 2nd conference in Stevens Point on April 30th. Contact our District Oratorical Contest Chair Diane Simon ([dsimon@uwaydunn.org](mailto:dsimon@uwaydunn.org)) for information about how to get your club winners entered.

*A complete Oratorical Contest program package with all the information needed to run a contest is available at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org).*

# Optimist International Annual Convention ~ Baltimore



After a great 2010 Convention in Denver, Optimists are putting the mountains behind them and heading for the water in Baltimore, Maryland!

The official dates are July 3-5, 2011, but Convention planners are keeping an eye out for something exciting to do on July 2 to get Optimists there early so they can truly get a taste of this wonderful city! Stay tuned as plans develop!

Convention headquarters will be at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront that quite literally sits on the water's edge. The Marriott is nestled in Harbor East, the city's premier neighborhood.

Convention promises spectacular views of the Baltimore Harbor. Shopping and a huge assortment of restaurants are nearby, with the National Aquarium and the Maryland Science Center just a few blocks away. For more information visit [www.optimist.org/convention](http://www.optimist.org/convention).



See more about the convention on page 17

## 93rd Optimist International Annual Convention ~ Baltimore

Mark Your Calendar ~ July 3- 5, 2011

Spend Independence Day in Baltimore. Just outside the Marriott Waterfront hotel. The city will be bustling with so much excitement it won't be easy to get around by car and restaurants will be jammed packed. So join President Danny Rodgers and First Lady Jill and the 2010-11 Leaders at the International President's Freedom Dinner and Dance - Monday, July 4 at the Marriott Waterfront Harborside Ballroom -- see registration form for details.



**Baltimore Marriott Waterfront** Headquarters Hotel 700 Aliceanna Street Baltimore, Maryland 21022  
Rate/Room Type: Standard Room (King or dbl/dbl) \$135.00 (plus 15.50 % tax)

**Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel** 202 East Pratt Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
Rate/Room Type: Standard Room (King or dbl/dbl) \$129.00 (plus 15.50 % tax )

For reservations at either hotel call 800-266-9432 or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/optimist2011>

*(The hotels do not require a one night deposit when booking your room with a major credit card. Payment for all charges will be due upon checkout. It is recommended not to give a debit card to the hotel as they will put a hold on your account for the total amount of anticipated funds due for the entire stay plus incidentals.)*

### Things to do In and Around Baltimore

**Baltimore - Harbor Happiness** -- a vibrant city on the water where you will find something around every corner. Baltimore's Inner Harbor is one of the most visited areas of the city and one of the major seaports in the United States. Visit the National Aquarium, Camden Yards, Ft. McHenry, Maryland Zoo, Maryland Science Center, World Trade Center, USS Constellation, small quaint neighborhoods and a collection of shops and restaurants. Find your happy face in Baltimore -- <http://www.bmorehappy.com/> or visit [www.baltimore.org](http://www.baltimore.org)

**Taxi by Water** around the Baltimore Inner Harbor --Taxi by boat to more than 30 attractions and neighborhoods. The Water Taxi System compares to a bus line service on water. Times between boats average 15-20 minutes. Tickets are currently \$10.00 Adults and \$5.00 Kids (10 and under) priced for all-day, unlimited on-off service including to Fort McHenry (prices are subject to change). The Water Taxi is "RECREATIONAL TRANSPORTATION" meaning "getting there" is part of the fun. If you must be somewhere really fast... then it's not for you! Sit back, enjoy the water and the spectacular views. For more information go to [www.thewatertaxi.com](http://www.thewatertaxi.com)

Plan for a few extra days and take day trips to Washington, DC, Philadelphia, New York City.  
Easily accessible by Amtrak, or just a short drive.

Washington DC - 45 minutes away

Philadelphia - 2 hours away

New York City - 3 hours away

### Special deals from Optimist International

Buy a registration package deal and save \$26.00  
only \$281.00 by May 1

includes full registration and three meals -- Appreciation Luncheon/  
Old Timers' Breakfast/Freedom Celebration Dinner and Dance  
Register at: [http://www.optimist.org/reg/ConvReg\\_Member.cfm](http://www.optimist.org/reg/ConvReg_Member.cfm)

# OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM BEFORE MAILING OR FAXING



## Registration Procedures (Please read carefully)

- Do not include hotel deposit or housing reservation with Convention registration.
- Club number (5 digits) must be included on this form.
- Only one registration form needed for each Member and family registering.
- Early bird registration must be postmarked or faxed no later than May 1, 2011.
- All other pre-registrations must be postmarked or faxed no later than June 3, 2011, and received at the International Office by June 10, 2011.
- **Advance Registration deadline is June 3, 2011.**
- Registration packets may be picked up at the Convention site starting at 8am on Sunday, July 3.

Register online with credit card at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)

## Registrant #1 (Please print)

District \_\_\_\_\_ Club No. \_\_\_\_\_ Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First M.I. Last Nickname for badge

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State/Province Postal Code

Daytime phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you require any special assistance/meals. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

### Current Office Held

- First Convention  Yes  No
- Club President     Lt. Governor     Governor     Convention Ambassador     Past Governor  
 Club President-Elect     Lt. Governor-Elect     Governor-Elect     OIF Representative     International Past VP  
 Current \_\_\_\_\_ Elect \_\_\_\_\_

## Registrant #2

Is additional Registrant a Club Member?  Yes  No

District \_\_\_\_\_ Club No. \_\_\_\_\_ Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
First M.I. Last Nickname for badge

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City State/Province Postal Code

Daytime phone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you require any special assistance/meals. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

### Current Office Held (for additional member)

- First Convention  Yes  No
- Club President     Lt. Governor     Governor     Convention Ambassador     Past Governor  
 Club President-Elect     Lt. Governor-Elect     Governor-Elect     OIF Representative     International Past VP  
 Current \_\_\_\_\_ Elect \_\_\_\_\_

## Children Registered: Please check the activities each child will attend.

Four Events are planned for the children with meal included.  
 Sunday meal not included.

				Sun Day	Sun Eve	Mon Day	Mon Eve	Tues Day
Name _____	Age _____	Shirt Size _____	Adult/Child _____	Circle One	Add \$20 US	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	Age _____	Shirt Size _____	Adult/Child _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	Age _____	Shirt Size _____	Adult/Child _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Name _____	Age _____	Shirt Size _____	Adult/Child _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Check here if you require any special assistance/meals. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE in case of emergency during the Convention, contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_

at Daytime phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Evening phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Questions regarding this form? Contact Meeting Services at (800) 500-8130 or e-mail [convention@optimist.org](mailto:convention@optimist.org).

**What's included in a full registration?**

Opening Ceremonies, Business Sessions, Back to School Workshops, Club President-Elect & Lt. Governor-Elect training, District Choir Training, House of Optimism (Exhibit Hall), International President's Freedom Celebration Dance includes \$1.00 to go toward the 100th year festivities.

**\*SPECIAL INCENTIVE - Buy a package deal in advance for a savings of \$26 (US)**

Includes Full Registration (as listed above) • Appreciation Luncheon • Old Timers' Breakfast • Freedom Celebration Dinner/Dance

**ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$281 (US) Earlybird or \$316 (US) after May 1 (Not available onsite; Package cannot be divided between attendees)**

**Registration fees (Rates increase \$20 onsite)**

Canadian members may register online and pay the fees in US funds by using their credit card and benefit from the issuing bank's or financial institution's daily currency exchange rate. They also have the option to pay in Canadian funds through the Canadian Service Centre by check or credit card, and the currency exchange rate applied will be the same as the one established at the beginning of each quarter for members' dues to Optimist International.

Fees paid (please check) <input type="checkbox"/> US <input type="checkbox"/> CAN	Registrant #1	Registrant #2	x	Price per person US	Number of Youth	x	Price per child US	
Early Bird Registration (By May 1)	_____	_____	x	\$186	_____	x	\$125	\$ _____
Regular Registration (By June 3)	_____	_____	x	\$221	_____	x	\$125	\$ _____
Special Incentive Package (by May 1)	_____	_____	x	\$281	_____			\$ _____
Special Incentive Package (by June 3)	_____	_____	x	\$316	_____			\$ _____

Not able to attend the full convention? Then register for applicable daily package.

**Daily packages – Advance Early Bird \$110 Regular \$130 Onsite \$150**

**Sunday Daily (July 3)**

Back to School Workshops  
District Chair Designate Training  
House of Optimism  
Introductions  
Keynote address by President Darryl Rodgers  
Meet and Greet your Regional Candidates  
Orientation for First Timers  
Parade of Flags

Club President-Elect Training  
Club Secretary-Treasurer Designate Training  
Lt. Governor-Elect Training

**Monday Daily (July 4)**

1st Business Session  
Awards Presentation  
Back to School Workshops  
House of Optimism  
Meet the Candidates  
Freedom Celebration Dance  
Town Hall Meeting

**Tuesday Daily (July 5)**

2nd & 3rd Business Sessions  
Bylaws report and voting  
Elections  
Address by President Designate Jack Creswell  
Closing Remarks by President Darryl Rodgers

Motivational Speaker  
Convention Preview Milwaukee, WI – 2012  
Resolutions

Total  
Sunday..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Monday..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesday..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional Events**

Must be registered to attend a meal function.

	Registrant #1	Registrant #2	x	Price per person US	Number of Youth	x	Price per child US	Total
Youth Tour (Sunday, July 3)	N/A	N/A		N/A	_____	x	\$20	\$ _____
OIF/OIFC Presidents Club Member Luncheon (Sunday, July 3)	_____	_____	x	\$37	_____			\$ _____
Club President-Elect & Lt. Governor-Elect Breakfast (Monday, July 4)	_____	_____	x	\$27	_____			\$ _____
Appreciation Luncheon – Magnificent Maryland (Monday, July 4)	_____	_____	x	\$37	_____			\$ _____
Freedom Celebration Dinner/Dance (Monday, July 4)	_____	_____	x	\$52	_____			\$ _____
Old Timers' Breakfast and Pajama Party (Tuesday, July 5)	_____	_____	x	\$32	_____			\$ _____
OIF/OIFC Hot Luncheon (Tuesday, July 5)	_____	_____	x	\$37	_____			\$ _____

**Souvenir T-shirt:**

\$15 US All shirts are in adult sizes only. The T-shirts will have the Convention logo on them. Shirts will not be sold onsite.

\_\_\_\_\_medium \_\_\_\_\_large \_\_\_\_\_x-large \_\_\_\_\_xx-large (add \$1 US) \_\_\_\_\_xxx-large (add \$2 US) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Method of Payment**

Please make all checks or money orders payable to Optimist International. Post dated checks not accepted. All returned checks or credit cards are subject to a \$25.00 fee. To confirm your registration use one of the following means of payment:

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Check  Money Order  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Card Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder's signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellation Policy**

Persons canceling Convention registrations on or before April 1 will receive a full refund of fees paid. Persons canceling between April 1 and seven (7) days prior to the start of the Convention (Sunday, July 3) will receive a refund of all fees paid, less a processing fee of \$25 US per registrant. (NO EXCEPTIONS) Persons canceling Convention registrations less than seven (7) days prior to the start of the Convention will receive no refund. (NO EXCEPTIONS) ALL CANCELLATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING. "NO SHOWS" WILL NOT BE REFUNDED. Due to guarantees required for food functions, no refunds will be made on meal tickets after June 30.

**Return to:**

Mail (or fax) by Deadline (see above) (DO NOT DO BOTH, unless requested) to:

United States and Caribbean Registrants: Optimist International Convention • 4494 Lindell Blvd. • St. Louis, MO 63108 / (Credit card only on faxed requests) Fax (314) 371-6014

Canadian Registrants: Optimist International Convention • 5205 Boul. Metropolitan Est., Bureau 200 • Montréal, QC H1R 1Z7 Canada / (Credit card only on faxed requests) Fax (514) 721-1104

total \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_ check no. \_\_\_\_\_ authorization no. \_\_\_\_\_

## Optimist International Annual Convention ~ Baltimore (Some FAQ)

Here are some answers to questions we have received:

1. What is there to do in Baltimore? *The best way to find out is to go to [www.baltimore.org](http://www.baltimore.org) and check out everything the city has to offer.*
2. What is the closest airport to the convention hotel? *Baltimore Washington International (BWI). Check out the airport's web site at [www.bwiairport.com](http://www.bwiairport.com). It's a short shuttle ride (15-20 minutes) from the airport to the hotel.*
3. We're coming by train. What is the closest train station to the convention hotel? *Penn Station in Baltimore. It's just a 10 minute cab ride from the hotel. See the notes on the OI web site about discounts that Amtrak is offering.*
4. We're thinking about bringing our kids and/or our grandchildren to the convention. Will there be anything for them to do? *You can register them to participate in the youth program. On Sunday afternoon they be going out on the harbor with the Urban Pirates; Sunday evening they'll have dinner and then participate in games, crafts, and a magic show; Monday--they'll visit the Maryland Science Center and the National Aquarium at Baltimore and in the evening they'll have dinner, participate in group activities and watch the July 4 Fireworks on the Harbor; and on Tuesday they'll spend the day at the Baltimore Zoo. It will definitely a fun time for them.*
5. Will we be able to go to a baseball game like we did in Denver? *The Baltimore Orioles will be out of town during the Convention, but they are playing the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday evening, June 30, 2011. We will have tickets for that game beginning in January. Yes, that June 30 is early, but you can arrive on Thursday, go to the game on Thursday evening and then do some sightseeing in the Baltimore area on Friday and Saturday before the convention begins on Sunday.*
6. Does the Host Area Committee need any volunteers to assist at the Convention? *Yes, we would be happy to have some convention attendees volunteer to assist us. Here are some things you could do: a. Volunteer to assist at the Registration Booth for a couple of hours on Sunday and/or Monday. b. Serve as a hostess/hostess at the Appreciation Luncheon on Monday. You must purchase a ticket for the luncheon in order to do this. It's fun and we'll show you what to do. c. Volunteer to be a chaperon at some of the youth activities. Chaperons must be over 18 and be an OI member or spouse of a member.*
7. Does the Host Area Committee need any financial assistance? *Yes, additional funds are welcome. We do have an opportunity for both individuals and/or clubs to make a donation to support the Host Area Committee. All individuals who make a donation of \$25 (US) or more will receive a certificate and all Clubs that make a donation of \$50 (US) or more will receive a Host Area Committee Sponsor banner patch. Names of all sponsors will be listed in the OI Convention Program.*

If you have other questions and/or would like additional information about Baltimore and the surrounding area, "Just Ask!" and Ronda Vaughn, OI Director of Meeting Services, and Sharon Parton, OI Meetings and Travel manager, will be happy to assist you with specific Convention questions. You can contact them at 800-500-8130.

Dennis Lane, Host Area Committee Chair 2011  
OI Convention 410-592-2574, 410-592-7067  
[djlane@juno.com](mailto:djlane@juno.com)

*NOTE: The information above was received just prior to publication of this newsletter and was added at the last minute, I hope it helps answer some questions and convinces you to attend... SEE YOU IN BALTIMORE*

*John VanBeek  
Convention Ambassador*

**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR EDITOR**

By: Charlie Pufahl

*(Some of you may know that since November of 2006 I have written a weekly column in the Everest Herald (a weekly publication that can be found at [www.everestherald.com](http://www.everestherald.com)) about the Everest Area Optimist Club and Optimism in general. I want to share with you my column as it appeared in the December 24, 2010 edition of the paper.)*

I think this Christmas, probably like many of you; I'm not really ready for it. I am ready to spend time with my family and friends but I know there were some last minute things that went undone. You know those last gifts to purchase, the last cards to send and others. Anyway as Christmas got closer this year and I tried to get in the Christmas mood so that I'd get all those things done, I started listening to more and more Christmas music. As I listened to songs about snow, Santa, reindeer, snowmen, and all the rest I started getting in the mood a bit more, but I also started thinking that probably one of my most favorite Christmas songs doesn't mention Santa, reindeer, snowmen, or any of the other things most of us think about at Christmas. Heck it doesn't even mention Christmas. It talks in a way about last words of verse 14, chapter 2 of the book of Luke and the bible account of the birth of Christ "and on earth peace, good will toward men".

The song I'm talking about was written in 1955 by Jill Jackson and Sy Miller. It has been recorded probably by hundreds, but the version I like most was recorded by Vince Gill with his Daughter Jenny back in 1993. One of the reasons I like this version so much is that Jenny was quite young when she sang with her dad and as a member of the Everest Area Optimist Club we focus on youth and helping them be all that they can be. I think that if each of us can do what the words of the song say, and teach our children to do the same there can be "Peace On Earth".

The words to "Let There Be Peace on Earth" are:

*"Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me. Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.*

*With God as our Father, brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother, in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow.*

*To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally. Let there be Peace on Earth, and let it begin with me."*

We all know there isn't peace on earth today. We read and hear about all the violent things going on in the world today from war overseas to people pushing, shoving and injuring others in crowded department stores so they can purchase that cherished gift before someone else does. But if we can remember the words of this song and practice them; things will be different.

From me personally and the entire Everest Area Optimist Club... Merry Christmas and best wishes for the coming year. May it be a year in which we see much more peace on earth and may it be a year when that peace begins with each one of us.

*Charlie Pufahl*

District Newsletter Editor  
Everest Area Optimist Club  
Breaking Boundaries Optimist Club

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Being the voice of the E.A.O. (Everest Area Optimist Club) - A District Newsletter

*We're on the web* [www.winum.com](http://www.winum.com)

### WINUM NEWSLETTER

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### NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

2010-11 3rd Quarter Newsletter

**MARCH 11, 2011**

### 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.

