

OptiViews

Michigan District
Optimist International

Volume 26, Number 1

Oct/Nov/Dec 2005

Illuminating our Youth

Don Brose
MI District Governor



What's Inside

The New Optimist Year

Young People we serve have no idea that we have just begun a new Optimist Year. In fact if they did know, they wouldn't care. They simply look forward to our continued service to them, year after year after year. Yet for those of us, the New Club Presidents, the Club Committee Chair people, those of us who serve in the Michigan District Leadership, fall brings a new influx of enthusiasm. We take on new positions to challenge ourselves, and to leave whatever we're taking on just a little better than when we started. Our challenge is to show our enthusiasm and convey this to all of the members of our organization. When we do this, the enthusiasm becomes infectious, and success follows. We will truly be bringing out the best in kids.

Helping Clubs Succeed

This is the first focus of the Michigan District of Optimist International. There are over 50 volunteers ready and willing to help your club succeed. Are you having trouble attracting new members? We have people who can teach you step by step on how to have a NOW (New Optimists Wanted) meeting. Do you want to get involved in Junior Golf, Youth Clubs, Oratorical or Essay Contests? We can help solve problems, tell you what to look for, and give you the needed encouragement. In a nutshell we're in this together for a common goal, and the district people are yours to use. We hope you will, for the young people in your community will be better for it.

Growth of Our Organization

The other Focus is bringing Optimism to more young people in Michigan. In order to do this our organization must grow. We're not asking each member to build a club. We ask all members to help out by simply being aware of new club building opportunities. If you have a friend who might enjoy being an optimist where there is no club, let us know. Our district leaders will investigate, and move forward where possible. Please review the target areas of new club

building listed in this newsletter. If you know someone in one of these areas, share that information with us so we can contact them to gauge their interest. Our organization will grow, and more young people will be served.

Illuminating our Youth

The young people who we serve are the bright stars of the future. And they do some amazing things **today**. Our essay contest contestants, our Tri-Star contestants, our youth club members, and all of the young people who work with you on your projects deserve to be recognized.. We will publicize their achievements, and show the world that there is a bright future. You will see young people at all of our district conferences and events. We will spotlight our young people like never before, for they are the motivation for our service.

District Conferences

Get ready for some lively conferences loaded with enthusiasm, fun, and sharing. Invite many members of your club, for there is no better way to insure outstanding future leaders. Each member attending will be included in the invigorating discussions, and we'll hear from motivating personalities. We're even bringing in well known personalities from outside our organization to inspire us, and also to get our message of optimism to the outside world. We will celebrate our successes, for this is what gives us the energy to take on our challenges.

A Bright Idea

Every invention, discovery and product began as an idea...a bright thought illuminating one mind. When shared, the new idea inspires and empowers others, making work a little lighter and life a little better. Your bright ideas help pave the way for our success. Some organizations have think tanks. We have you!

I wish you good health and good service,

Don Brose

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Optimists...Bringing out the Best in Kids

Dr. Mike Listenberger
Optimist International President



As Optimists we all share a common purpose, "Bringing out the Best in Kids". We are in a "people business" and volunteers are our greatest asset. I appreciate every one of you for adding value to our Organization in your own unique way.

I invite you to start the year by leading by example and become the first to earn and wear your "One-member Sponsor Lapel Pin". Get excited every time you see a member wearing it!

You are also invited to use your Club Thermometer Chart to track how hot your Club is! (It was sent to your President.) Display it at every meeting. As your Club adds new members, list each new Member and their Sponsor on the thermometer chart and watch the temperature climb. Every Sponsor's Name, between October 1 and December 31 will be put into a drawing to win a three-day Cruise for two.

"Builders of Excellence" who form new Clubs are truly the heroes of Optimist International. They will be awarded a gold medallion in Nashville where they will enjoy priority seating for convention and entertainment. They also will go into another drawing for a Cruise.

Be sure to check out our many on-line resources available to you on our web-sites www.optimist.org and www.optimistleaders.org.

Best wishes for all who lead by example in Bringing out the Best in Kids!



Michigan District Welcomes OI Vice President Ed Hyttenrauch

We as Michigan Optimists are proud to welcome Optimist International Vice-President Ed Hyttenrauch to our first quarter conference. Ed has spent 31 years as a charter member of the Optimist Club of Windsor – Forest Glade Club. . He was the Governor of the Southwest Ontario district in 1988-1989 and has spent many years supporting our youth. His experience includes District Leadership Development Chair, District CCDHH Chair, member of the Optimist International JOOI Committee. He has also been involved in other community activities, including some outstanding work with the Canadian Special Olympics.

Ed is married to Pat, and has three outstanding children, and four grandchildren, who are his main hobby. He also makes Teddy Bears which he donates to local charities. Ed's humor, wit and realism will be an inspiration to all who attend our conference. He believes in not only bringing out the best in kids, but also bringing out the best in Optimists. We welcome him as a major part of the Michigan District in 2005-2006.



Enlightening Our Adults

Lindsay Hultman

JOOI Governor 2005-2006



The 2005-2006 Optimist year is about to start and I'm ready to make a big impact! As the new JOOI Governor of Michigan, I am ready to take on some challenges. I am sure this year will be a great success for JOOI and I'm ready to kick it off! This year in JOOI my main goals will be to have growth in JOOI Michigan and to improve communication throughout. Though the theme this upcoming year will be "Illuminating Our Youth", I think it's time to "Enlighten Our Adults" as well. Our adults do not see all that JOOI is and all they do. So this year I want to enlighten the OI Michigan about JOOI Michigan. I want them to know we're here too and we're ready to make this year great! I also want to get more of the adults starting youth clubs. The OI motto is "Bringing out the best in kids". How can you be doing that without a youth club? Over the year I want to bring the importance of having youth clubs to the adults and get more clubs started for JOOI Michigan. I can't wait to get started, I have many ideas already collecting and I'm ready to put them into action! This year is going to be a huge success for JOOI Michigan as we "Enlighten Our Adults"!



I Believe...

Karen Monville

MI District Immediate Past Governor

I Believe the 2004-2005 Optimist Year went far too quickly. Dana and I thoroughly enjoyed the many club meetings and club functions that we attended; but we wanted to do more. I wanted to visit all of the clubs in the District in my year as Governor, but we simply ran out of time. These past 2 years as Governor-Elect and Governor of the Michigan District are ones I will always remember and will cherish forever.

Thanks to all of the District members who were so hospitable and always made us feel so welcome. Thank you to the Past Governors for your support and words of encouragement. Thank you to all of the committee chairs, Lt. Governors, and Assistant Governors for all of your efforts and hard work throughout the year.

A very special thanks to Meetings and Convention Chair, **Jeanna Clifford**, who ensured that all of our District meetings ran so smoothly, and to Secretary-Treasurer **Linda Ingersoll**, who did such a great job keeping our records and finances straight.

Thank you to those members who sponsored new members and built new clubs throughout the year and exposed others to the great world of optimism.

Polly Thomas continued with her great hospitality at our District Convention held in Bay City. There was really a hot time in the Hospitality Room on Friday, as evidenced by the firefighters who arrived. The Convention provided many training sessions, "a fourth quarter football experience", and a great river cruise on Saturday evening. Thanks to all who attended and visited Bay City.

Congratulations to all of the Clubs who will be recognized in February for their hard work and achieving Honor, Star, and Distinguished Club status.

I Believe Children Are Our Future and now let us all turn our support to our new leadership team and "Illuminate Our Youth".

2004-2005 Honor Clubs

Congratulations to the following clubs who, as of August 31, 2005, are on target for achieving Honor Club Status for the 2004-2005 Optimist Year:

Zone 3	Grand Rapids Kent	Zone 11	Clarkston Area Waterford Township	Zone 17	Detroit MetroRiverfront
Zone 4	Kalamazoo Breakfast Kalamazoo	Zone 12	Southfield-Lathrup	Zone 18	Jackson Manchester
Zone 6	Ypsilanti Pittsfield Township	Zone 13	Dearborn Plymouth Greater Northeast	Zone 19	Decatur
Zone 7	Mason	Zone 14	Detroit Northwest	Zone 20	Ludington
Zone 8	Bay City Noon Saginaw	Zone 15	Clinton Township Roseville	Zone 23	Detroit Central Detroit Downtown New Calvary Detroit Loving Community
Zone 9	Flint Breakfast Davison Flint Downtown Flint West	Zone 16	Mt. Pleasant Sunrise Gratiot County	Zone 24	Detroit Renaissance

In addition, **Clinton Township**, **Southfield-Lathrup**, and **Detroit Northwest** are on target for recognition as Distinguished Clubs. Congratulations and thanks for all of your hard work during the 2004-2005 Optimist Year.



What is your Optimist Plan?

Lou Moss

MI District Governor-Elect

It was a true honor to be elected to the position of Governor-Elect at the Michigan District Convention in Bay City. My appreciation goes to all of the Optimists throughout the district (and beyond) who extended their support and trust in me to lead the greatest district in Optimist International for Optimist year 2006-2007.

should have a plan for this year and beyond. Along with your club work, your plan could include becoming active with the district, possibly as a committee member or chair. There are over 50 Michigan District committees. If you have already been a club president, it may be time to you to stretch yourself to become a Lieutenant Governor.

What is my plan for this year?

I know that my job for this Optimist year is to give my support to **Governor Don Brose** as he leads the Michigan District Optimists to be the best they can be. It is my pleasure to do that.

During my past 15 years as an Optimist, I found that each time I stretched to learn a new Optimist job, it had great rewards personally and professionally. Please think about that in the next few months.

My other responsibilities are to plan the 2006-2007 Optimist year and encourage strong leadership at all levels. So that leads me to...

If you have an interest in a 2006-2007 district position, please contact me at 586-566-7277 or e-mail: loumoss1@hotmail.com.

What is your Optimist plan?

No matter if you are a new Optimist member or have been a member for over 50+ years (like Dr. Joe Sasaki of Ann Arbor), you

As Optimists, let's expect success as we "plan our work, and work our plan".



...Here We Come

Marc D. Katz

MI District Past Governor & OI Ambassador

The 2006 Optimist International Convention will be held in Nashville, TN at the Opryland Hotel, Wednesday July 5th-Saturday July 8th. Information for registration will soon be available on the Optimist International website, www.optimist.org and will also be available at the 1st quarter District meeting. Early Registration (\$125) deadline is April 15, 2006. Advance Registration (\$135) deadline is May 31, 2006. For more information about the Opryland Hotel, you can go to their website www.gaylordhotel.com and for city of Nashville information, their website is www.Nashvillecvb.com.

This year we will again be selling Michigan District hospitality pins to help offset the cost of the District Hospitality Room in Nashville. The pins will cost \$10 and will be available for purchase at the 1st quarter meeting in Flint.

Start planning today to be in Nashville. Many decisions will be made during the business sessions, including the vote of the renewal plan that will affect the future of our organization. It will be vital for you to be there to have your voice heard. If you are not there, you do not get to vote. We also want to be there to support International President Mike Listenberger, Governor Don and Governor-Elect Lou.



Optimist International Renewal Plan

Optimist International has introduced a renewal plan that was adopted by the Board of Directors on June 14th. The plan was reviewed at the International Convention and it was presented at the District Convention. The Renewal Plan will be voted on by the Convention delegates in Nashville in July of 2006.

Some of the goals of the Renewal Plan are to:

- ◆ Reorganize Optimist International into nine (9) Regions by October 1, 2008. There would be nine paid Regional Administrators that would report to the Executive Director. The regions would be responsible for growth, education and communications. International Committees would be eliminated with the exception of Candidate Qualifications, Convention, Finance, Governance and special ad hoc committees as needed. There would be a Regional Convention each year instead of a District Convention and there would still be an International Convention.
- ◆ Achieve a reduction in cost per member by October 1, 2008. The Director of Finance is to submit to the Board of Directors a budget to achieve this goal.
- ◆ Increase the annual retention rate of members to 85% by September 30, 2007. Optimist International will foster and promote awareness among club leadership to maximize retention, recognize and develop guidance to Club leadership that all members' needs, views and concerns are important to the health of the Club. To standardize new member procedures.
- ◆ Increase total adult membership to 107,000 by September 30, 2010. To develop "Friend of Youth" class of membership directly affiliated to Optimist International. To develop an ongoing recruitment program.
- ◆ Increase the number of Optimist Clubs to 3,500 by September 30, 2010. To engage the services of paid Professional Builders who will serve the Regions in addition to the assigned Club Builders. To expand the number of paid Profession Builders as demand dictates to ensure that each Region has at least one Builder by October 1, 2008. To embark on a rigorous program to build new Clubs.

The Past Governors Association has formed a committee chaired by Past Governor Chris Scott to put together a Michigan District response to the renewal plan. There will be a workshop held at the 1st quarter meeting to give members an opportunity to give feedback and comments to the committee. The entire renewal plan is available on the Optimist International website, www.optimist.org. Please read the entire plan. Let the committee know your feelings and your suggestions.

Past Governor Chris Scott, topher3723@wowway.com

Past Governor Jerry Woodthorp, jwood5577@aol.com

Past Governor Marc Katz, marcgoblue1@hotmail.com

Club Services

Roger Diederich

MI District Club Services Chairperson

Hello Optimists from your HMO. I bet many of you didn't know you have a "free" Optimist HMO Committee. "Yes, you have one." The Club Services Committee is in place to help keep your club's health in top-notch condition. The 4 Assistant Governors are the regional committee members working with me and in concert with the Lt. Governors at the zone level. We are directly responsible to Governor Don for your health and welfare. We are here to assist in areas such as goal setting, club operations including finance, membership, fundraising ideas, and any other areas of concern. Like normal HMOs you need to have a regular check up and keep

in contact with your primary health care provider. Club presidents, as your first line of contact, keep in close contact with your Lt. Governor. Feel free to contact the Assistant Governor in your region or contact me, Roger Diederich, 248-625-5915 or fax me at the same number and I will assist you or put you in contact with someone geographically close to you. I can also be reached at Roger8151@msn.com. The advice is free, the ideas are free, and the help is free. As a club president, you have one year to get it done and a lifetime to remember what was accomplished. Make it a great memory!



New Club Building—Going For The Goal!

Cherryl Thames

MI District New Club Building Chairperson

What an exciting year this is destined to be. At their pre-season training camp in August, the 2005-2006 Lt. Governors met for the first time as members of the Blue, Red, Orange and Yellow Teams – with a single mindedness of NEW CLUB BUILDING.

This jumpstart meeting included one-on-one strategy sessions with me even before they had a chance to huddle as teammates. The outcome of these sessions included lots of brainstorming and some AHA! moments for all of us including a look at building Young Adult Clubs (YA), a Young Adult Symphony Club (YS), a Young Adult Orchestra Club (YO) and some unique Special Interest Clubs (SI) that strengthened our ability for thinking out of the box. Here's a list of our starting line-up:

Blue Team	Red Team	Orange Team	Yellow Team
Mary Lowery	Ray Finocchio	JoAnn Dodick	Debra Berry
John Willis	Lamont Okey	Alice Nash	Jeff Hauter
John McKendry	Ken Johnson	Rusty Kaltsounis	Harry Margo
Richard Holland	Michele Rollinger	Barry Burnham	Ron Hardy
Dorothy Tyler	Annie Spearman-Sain		
NCB Targets	NCB Targets	NCB Targets	NCB Targets
Pinconning	Birmingham – YA	Rochester	MSU
Kettering U.	Troy	Warren	U of M
Detroit – YA/SI	Fraser/Roseville/St. Clair Shores	Pickney	4H Club Grads – YA
Lakes Mall	White Lake	WMU	Oakland U – YS
	Commerce		OCC H.Lakes - YO
	Oxford		

As the saying goes ... "There's always room for one more". In this case the one more means one more team with a list of NCB Targets of their own:

District Team	NCB Targets
Don Brose	U of M
Cherryl Thames	EMU
Jerry Kelley	Ann Arbor – SI
Richard Bloom	East Detroit./Grosse Pt.
Marc Katz	Livonia
Dan Moss	Canton
James Evans*	Brandon
Dana Monville*	Oak Park
Al Springer*	Niles
	Benton Harbor/ St. Joseph
* NCB District Committee	

When was the last time that you were at a meeting that exceeded your expectations? Well, this was surely one of those phenomenal sessions for me and I can't wait for us to get started. Yes, we are truly a group of extraordinary adults devoted to the development of our youth and it is safe to say that building new clubs is like putting our stake in the ground, i.e., this is why we're here.

$$30 \text{ new clubs} \times 25 \text{ new members/club} = 750 \text{ new members (minimum)}$$

$$750 \text{ members} \times 35 \text{ children each} = 26,250 \text{ new children whose lives we can touch}$$

"Team work makes the dream work"— We can do this



Michigan District Children Need You!

Janet Oord

MI District Director of Committees

Here is a great opportunity for you to serve your fellow Michigan District Optimists, grow as an individual and above all impact the programs that touch all of our children in Michigan! Michigan District Committees are intended to bring to the forefront for our Clubs and Members the programs and information that our Optimist International organization has to offer. In the end, it always comes back to how the children in our communities are touched by our work and how our members grow through their work as an Optimist.

In order to make this happen we need to have the involvement of many Optimists from across the State. Look over the list of committees included here and decide where you might have a particular interest or talent. When you have decided where you might like to help, give me a call or send me an e-mail and I'll send your information on to the committee chair of that area.

Committees of the Michigan District: Childhood Cancer (CCC), Conventions and Meetings, Essay Contest, Oratorical Contest, OI Junior Golf, JOOI (Youth Clubs), Membership, New Club Building, Personal Growth and Involvement (PGI)

If you are not sure or have more questions about where your talents might best fit, feel free to call as well:

Janet Oord, Director of Committees (H) 269-324-5975 (W) 269-553-9326 or email - joord@kresanet.org

Coming Your Way Soon... MI District EXPO at the First Quarter Meeting

Janet Oord

MI District Director of Committees

So what in the world is a Michigan District EXPO? Michigan District Committees will have displays at each of our District meetings that will provide information for Michigan District Optimists to learn about the many Optimist programs and upcoming events for their clubs. The idea is to provide interesting and informative displays for our members to peruse between meetings. Hopefully the displays will give participants helpful and motivating information to bring back to their clubs. The displays will provide information on many topics such as: Membership recruitment and retention, Personal Growth and Involvement (PGI), JOOI, Childhood Cancer Campaign (CCC) and the list goes on and on. Don't miss this exciting learning opportunity, sign up for the first quarter meeting now! If you have something you might like to display at the Expo, please contact Jan Oord at joord@kresanet.org or 269-324-5975

First Timers...We Welcome You

Sandy Diederich

MI District First Timers Chairperson

Is this your first time to attend an Optimist District Meeting? If so, please join the other first timers for a continental breakfast and a special welcome by our "First Timers Committee". Even if you are a member with many years of experience, but this is your first District Meeting, join us. Be sure and mark your registration that you are a First-Timer. Plan on arriving a little bit early so that we can properly welcome you to the First-Timers Breakfast. We have planned some information sharing that will be useful for you. And we will be sure to include some fun! Any questions, call Sandy at 248-620-3450.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...MARCH 17&18, 2006

JOOI CONVENTION

CLARKSTON HIGH SCHOOL





It's a Matter of Perspective!

Dan Moss

MI District Membership Chairperson

Every year you hear the District and Optimist International talking about membership. The talk surrounds the subject of getting "New Members". The persuasions go something like this:

- ◆ New Members will bring new life and vitality to a club.
- ◆ New Members will bring new and fresh ideas to a club and the community.
- ◆ New Members will make the workload a lot easier because there will be more volunteers to do the work a few did before.
- ◆ New Members will help insure the survival of the club.
- ◆ New Members will add to the pool of leadership waiting to be developed for future administration of the club.
- ◆ New Members will help keep the Club Treasury in good fiscal shape.
- ◆ Etc., Etc., Etc....

While all of the above statements are true, it still involves a lot of work to go out and recruit these potential new members, get them to a meeting, and then, convince them that this is the kind of club, and these are the kind of people, doing the kinds of things they should be involved with.

"Just Ask" Campaigns, "N.O.W." Meetings, "Adopt-a-Member" Programs, "Membership Recruiting" Contests, are all some of the fun ways devised to encourage you to keep asking community members and friends to join you in your quest to make the world a better place and to "Bring Out the Best In Kids".

All are good things, and all are excellent ways to help build the membership at the club level. However, there is one more way in which a club could raise their membership numbers, (and it doesn't involve nearly as much work). It does involve just as much fun and satisfaction as all the aforementioned techniques.

First let me explain something from a "business" point of view. Studies have been done in many ways, shapes, and forms, and they all come to one conclusion. **IT COSTS MORE MONEY AND INVESTMENT TO FIND A NEW CUSTOMER THAN IT DOES TO KEEP AN OLD CUSTOMER!**

That's right! It costs a company a lot more money (about six times more) to advertise, (via radio, television, papers, magazines), woo, recruit, offer incentives, sales, and coupons to get **one** brand new customer into their store than it does to keep one current customer happy so they want to keep their business where it already is.

It is the same with volunteer organizations. It costs us more in money, time, and resources to go out and recruit one new member than it does to find out what it would take to keep a current member happy so they will maintain their membership and not drop the

club. A side benefit is it also helps to keep members loyal when they think the club leadership actually cares what they think about the day to day things in the club.

We have been taught to EXPECT a 20% attrition rate in our club membership each year. This means a club with 50 members will have to recruit 10 new members during the year JUST TO END UP AT THE SAME NUMBER!! How crazy is that? But it is true. The statistics from all the studies bear this fact out. The numbers say 20% off the top each and every year - - **if we keep operating the way we have always operated!**

Just imagine if you actually had a year where you didn't lose ONE MEMBER. What a wonderful life that would be. You still end up with 50 members and you didn't have to do one thing differently. Then all the effort you normally spend recruiting members, (if continued), would actually ADD 10 New Members to the club roster. Finally, you can see the reward for your hard work.

This would be in an "ideal world" but we all know we live in a "real world" where real things happen and people move away and others pass away. Stuff happens! But, we can work on the 10% that may leave the club because they are unhappy about something or do not feel appreciated, or do not feel needed, or busy enough to make their volunteerism worthwhile. We can work on keeping everybody busy. We can work on keeping enough projects going that there is something for every member's tastes.

We can work on caring for our members and responding to their suggestions so much, they will NOT WANT to give up their membership.

So remember, "retention" is just as important as recruiting - - IT'S A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE!



Optimists In Action

Nicole M Ingersoll

Editor

Welcome to the 2005-2006 1st Quarter Edition of Optimists in Action. Although the year has just begun, many Clubs have been quite busy with several fall activities. Let's take an inside look!

The **Greater Grace Temple Optimist Club** had a Clothing Drive at The Back to School Fest and the clothes donated were given to people in need.

Southfield-Lathrup Optimist Club kicked off it's Career Awareness Program (ENFUSE: Energizing Our Future Leaders) for 50+ eighth-grade students this fall in collaboration with Providence Hospital, the program's new sponsor.

The 16th Annual Chilimpiad was put on by the **Auburn Hills Morning Optimist Club**. Participants were encouraged to fix a pot of their favorite chili and then the entries were placed into categories for judging. A good time had by all.

The **Clarkston Area Optimist Club** hosted a Back to School event on opening day to help ease the students into Middle School and Junior High. Lunch was served while the students listened to motivational speaker, Michael Karpovtich. More than 2400 children participated.

On September 14, **The Optimist Club of Keego Harbor** sponsored the annual Skate Night. It's an event where kids can enjoy a safe, fun environment for their skateboards, bikes, etc.

PLEASE NOTE: Julie Howes will be the 2005-2006 Optimists in Action Editor. All Optimists in Action information should be forwarded to her either by email or U.S. Mail. Be sure to include her on your mailing list for your Club bulletins as well.

Julie Howes
50 Grant St
Galesburg, MI 49053
JLHOWES217@aol.com



Remembering Robert Di Giulio A Great Man—A Great Friend—A Great Mentor!

August 27, 1930 – September 16, 2005

A man with a green thumb for people and a builder of community is the Robert Di Giulio that we should all remember. A legacy so rich that it is impossible to capture it in this space and yet we would be remiss if we did not share a small measure of his journey with you.

Robert dedicated 31 years of service to the Southfield Public Schools. He started his involvement with the Optimists by joining the Southfield-Lathrup Optimist Club in 1979 and became their Distinguished President in 1982-83. During the 1980's, Robert received a multitude of outstanding service and contribution awards from his community. Those honoring Robert included the City of Southfield-Parent Youth Guidance Commission (1975-81), Michigan State Fair (1983), Chaldean Youth Club (1985), 65 Roses Club of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (1986), and his own Southfield-Lathrup Optimist Club (1987-88).

In 1987-88, Robert served the Michigan District as Lt. Governor for Zone 12 and four short years later led our District as its Governor to become a Distinguished District. During 1991-92, Robert earned the prestigious distinction of Outstanding and Distinguished Governor, an honor only earned by two previous governors. During that same year, Robert was recognized by the Top Achiever New Club Builder Award, the OI Vice President's Honor Club Award, and was honored along with the Michigan District for our help after Hurricane Andrew. It was no surprise that Robert was inducted into the Michigan District Hall of Fame in 1993.

Anyone who served on a committee or worked on a project with Robert will agree that his focus was always on helping our youth and growing our District. Let us continue to keep Robert's memory alive as we pick up where Robert left off.



Light Up the First Quarter Meeting

Terry Sabo

MI District Convention & Meetings Chairperson

We will be "Illuminating our Youth" and lighting up the Holiday Inn Gateway Center in Flint, Michigan on November 11, 12, and 13. Billed as Mid-Michigan's Premier Banquet Facility, the Holiday Inn will be lit up with a variety of new features offered by this year's Michigan District Optimist leaders, beginning with the Friday evening Executive Board Meeting followed by the ever-popular hospitality room.

When the lights get turned on Saturday morning, you will find yourself in a "different kind" of Optimist meeting. While the tradition of our predecessors remains strong, you will see some new things introduced at our general session and breakout sessions. This will be a great new experience for all district club members, new and old. You won't want to miss the breakout training sessions. Our Michigan District leaders will be ready to present useful information for us to take back to our local clubs.

By the time the switch is flipped for Saturday evening, the lights will be burning bright and strong! After another great meal, we will be entertained by a special and unique musical guest from the Flint area, Eddie Barney. Eddie's smooth voice, magic fingers on his guitar and the soothing sounds from his harmonica will put us in an optimistic mood and leave us wanting more. You want to talk about changing things? This will be a toe-tapping evening of entertainment that is guaranteed to shine bright.

As our beam of light takes us through the Governor's breakfast on Sunday morning, we will be ready to disperse back to the youth of our communities and "Illuminate our Youth". I hope you enjoy your weekend at the 1st Quarter District Meeting.

Hotel Reservations

When making your reservations, please mention that you are with the MI District Optimists. To get the group rate, reservations must be made by **October 28, 2005**. Room rate is \$89.00 + tax (Single or Double Occupancy).

Holiday Inn-Gateway Centre
5353 Gateway Centre
Flint, MI 48507
(810) 232-5300

Children's Activities

On Saturday, November 12th, we will provide supervised activities for children age 5 and older. The daytime session, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:40 p.m., will have crafts, games, movies, and a local police officer coming in to talk about bike safety. For lunch, pizza and pop will be provided. In the evening, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., kids will enjoy popcorn and movies. Please fill out the registration form so that your child may attend these activities. Please understand that if you do not pre-register, we may not be able to include your child(ren) in the activities.

Directions to Hotel

From North:

I-75 South to South US 23
Exit Hill Road (East)

From East and West:

I-69 to I-75 South
to South US 23
Exit Hill Road (East)

From South:

I-75 North to I-475 North
Exit Hill Road (West)

From West:

I-94 to US 23 North
Exit Hill Road (East)

Spouses Activities

Robin Brose

MI District First Lady

COME ONE, COME ALL! Create your own memory/gift card which can later be added to any current album. Please bring 5-10 photos of a like subject with you.

Fun for all!!

Embellishments also included. Albums and other supplies are available for purchase.

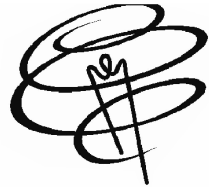
The cost for this event is \$30 for supplies and lunch with the Optimists. Instruction on scrap booking is in the morning and after lunch you may continue working on memory/gift card or work on your own album.





Register Today For The
MI District 2005- 2006 1st Quarter Meeting

Friday, November 11, 2005 Executive Committee Meeting/Hospitality Room
Saturday, November 12, 2005 General Business Meeting & Training
Sunday, November 13, 2005 Governor's Breakfast



Please Use **One** Form Per Optimist Member!

Name: _____

Phone: () _____

Zone: _____

Club Name: _____

2005-2006 Office: _____

First Timer? ____ Yes ____ No

Any Special Meal Needs: _____

If attending, Spouse/Guest Name: _____

Children's Names & Ages: _____

****General Session starts @ 9:00 a.m. ****

Workshops

- JOOI
- OI Reorganization
- Membership/N.O.W. (New Optimists Wanted)
- Successful Board of Directors Meetings
- Club Secretary/Treasurers Training
- New Club Building
- Lt. Governors/Assistant Governors Training
- Club Presidents Training
- Essay & Oratorical Contests

Roundtables

- PGI (Personal Growth & Involvement)
- Childhood Cancer
- Club Scrapbooks & CPA
- Tri-star Basketball
- Junior Golf Tournament

Featuring Motivational Speakers:

- ◆ L. Brooks Patterson, Oakland County Executive
(Former State of Michigan Governor Candidate)
- ◆ Herb Strather, Businessman & Optimist Extraordinaire

Please note Policy #C7: All requests for refunds of prepaid registrations must be made in writing by the pre-registered individual. Such requests must be received by the Convention Chair or Secretary-Treasurer before the last day of the convention.

Please Check Which Activities You will Attend:

Early Registration: _____ @ \$30 = _____

Must be faxed or postmarked before November 4, 2005.

Registration includes coffee, lunch & meeting room charges.

Please select one of the following lunch choices:

_____ Chicken Alfredo _____ Meat Lasagna

Late Registration: _____ @ \$35 = _____

Faxed or postmarked after November 4, 2005. Lunch **NOT** guaranteed.

Spouse's Activity: _____ @ \$30 = _____

Lunch included with the Optimists. Create your own gift card for a scrapbook or album.

Children's Daytime Activity: _____ @ \$8 = _____

9:00 a.m. – 3:40 p.m. Lunch includes pizza & pop.

Crafts, games, & movies.

Children's Evening Activity: _____ @ \$8 = _____

6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Popcorn & Movies

Lt.Gov. /Asst. Gov. Breakfast: _____ @ Free = _____

7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Past Governors' Breakfast: _____ @ Free = _____

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

First Timers/Spouses' Breakfast: _____ @ Free = _____

7:30 a.m. -8:30 a.m.

Saturday Night Dinner: _____ @ \$35 = _____

(Business Dress Attire) Includes Entertainment & Cash Bar

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. OI Vice President Reception

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Dinner & Entertainment

Please select one of the following dinner choices:

_____ Spice Rubbed Pork Loin _____ Chicken Forester

Governor's Breakfast: _____ @ \$15 = _____

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Sunday Morning

Total: _____

Please Make Checks Payable To: **Michigan District Optimists**

Send or Fax Registration to:
Jerry Kelley, Secretary-Treasurer

3556 Cloverlawn
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Home Phone and Fax Number: (734) 434-8272



Michigan District
Optimist International

**Next OptiViews Deadline
December 3, 2005**

Submit articles via e-mail to:
ingers007@yahoo.com

Websites

Michigan District
www.michiganoptimists.org

Optimist International
www.optimist.org

OptiViews Staff

Nicole M. Ingersoll
Publisher/Editor

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Editor

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.

OptiViews (UPSP 667-270) is published quarterly for \$3.00 per member, per year, by the Michigan District, of Optimist International, 536 Green St, South Haven, MI 49090-1432. Periodical postage paid at Pontiac, MI Postmaster: Send all address corrections to OptiViews, 536 Green St, South Haven, MI 49090-1432.

Michigan District of Optimist International
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South Haven, Michigan 49090-1432

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