



OptiViews

Michigan District
Optimist International

OptiViews

July/August/September 2005

I Believe...Children Are Our Future

Karen Monville
MI District Governor

It's hard to believe we are already in the fourth quarter with only 3 months remaining of our Optimist year. Our 2005 International Convention is now history and many of you witnessed our own Michigan District **Michel Listenberger** being installed as the 2005-2006 Optimist International President. What an honor to be from Michigan and have Dr. Listenberger not only representing us, but the entire Optimist organization.

As a District, we have accomplished many great things already this year. We have built 3 new clubs—the latest one being St. John's Optimist Club of River Rouge which was chartered on May 22, 2005 with 29 new members. Thanks to **Herb Strather** and **Socialue Porter** for all of their work on building this club. We have also sponsored 376 new members. During our housecleaning efforts, 495 members have been dropped so we now have the challenge and opportunity to sponsor an additional 119 members to put our District in a positive situation for membership. If each club were to bring in just one new member, we would be on target to achieving this goal.

Thanks to **Sheryl Mitchell**, chair person for our District Oratorical Contest, who did a wonderful job at our third quarter District meeting in Livonia. I think we'll all remember Sheryl's version of the Optimist cheer!! Congratulations to **Joshua Rule** sponsored by **Ludington Optimist Club** and **Jennifer Cowhy** sponsored by **Saginaw Optimist Club**, our District Oratorical contest winners. Congratulations also to **Alicia Magnuson** from the **Mona Shores Optimist Club of Muskegon** who was our Essay contest winner. Thanks to **Bernice Parker** for serving as District Essay Chair person.

As we enter into our fourth quarter of the optimist year, please remember to review your club status for achieving honor club recognition.

Many of you have fulfilled all of the requirements and others are well on their way. Please review the awards section of the District directory or consult with your Lt. Governor.

As spring has sprung in Michigan, Dana and I have continued our travels to club meetings and activities. We continue to be impressed with all of the great things going on within our District and the wonderful ways you are all serving the youth of your communities. Congratulations to **Paul Lipson**, President of the Anchor Bay Optimist Club, who was awarded the Dr. Seymour Gretchko Youth Advocate Award at the 33rd Greater West Bloomfield Community Awards Breakfast. I was honored to have been there and witness the presentation. Congratulations to **Dorothy Dean** from the Western International Optimist Club for the excellent Respect For Law Day program she coordinated. These are just two of the many functions we have attended recently which make me very proud to be part of this great organization.

Our membership campaign that was introduced in February ended June 30, 2005. Through May (which are the latest statistics I have as I prepare this article), one member—**Floyd Addison** from the **Dearborn Optimist Club**—has qualified for free registration and lodging at the District Convention. **Floyd** has personally sponsored 11 members. Thank you **Floyd!!!** Three members have their names in the drawing for free registration—**Debra Berry** from **Waterford**; **Ethel Viney** from **Central Detroit**; and **Leslie Mansoor** from **Central Macomb**. **Debra** and **Ethel** have each sponsored 4 new members so one more sponsorship will have them in the drawing for both free registration and lodging. The winning names will be drawn after all updated information through June 30 has been received from Optimist International regarding new member sponsorship.

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I Believe...(Continued from Page 1)

This year our Michigan District Convention will not be held on Labor Day week-end. Our Michigan District Convention will be held August 26 – 28, 2005 in Bay City at the new Double Tree Hotel and Convention Center. This Double Tree was recently awarded the “Best In The Nation” from the Double Tree hotel chain. This promises to be a family week-end of fun, full of the “**Spirit of Optimism**”. The Convention will provide many opportunities for your club’s new leaders to get the appropriate training as well as provide your current leaders with advice on how to successfully complete their year. We will also be electing our Governor-Elect for 2005-2006.

On Saturday evening during our dinner session, we will be announcing the Optimist of The Year and Corporate Sponsor of the Year, as well as inducting the 2005-2006 District officers. After dinner, we will be boarding the Princess Wenonah, which is an old ferry boat, for a cruise on the Saginaw River. The Pear-it-Hedz will be providing Jimmy Buffet type music. This promises to be a fun-filled activity and one you won’t want to miss.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work during the first nine months of our year. We still have 3 months to accomplish our goals. Our year does not end until September 30, 2005.

From the Desk of the District Secretary-Treasurer

Linda Ingersoll

MI District Secretary-Treasurer

In many ways, it is hard to believe that we are now in the 4th Quarter of the 2004-2005 Administrative Year. The last three quarters have gone by very quickly and hopefully, have been quite productive for each of your clubs, zones and regions. As this edition goes to print, many of us will be attending the OI Convention in New Orleans, receiving training, enjoying the fellowship of other Optimists and most importantly, getting energized to complete this last quarter with renewed focus and enthusiasm.

Plans are being finalized for the MI District Convention in Bay City in August. You will be provided with information to complete your year as well as with training for next year’s administration, installation of district officers and presentation of awards.

One of the more important features of our Convention is the election of the Governor-Elect for 2005-2006. Each club will have the opportunity to vote on the candidates as well as on any issues brought before the convention. **Only accredited delegates can vote.** To be accredited, both District and International dues for the club need to be current, so as soon as you receive your fourth quarter dues invoices from the District and Optimist International, please pay them promptly. For those clubs that qualify to vote, the Club President or designate will receive a credentials ribbon in their registration packet.

Those of you that registered early for our 3rd Quarter District Meeting in Livonia received a special thank-you in your packet. Once again, you will be rewarded for early registration with a special surprise.

Don’t be left out.....**PLEASE REGISTER EARLY** and help us prepare for a successful convention.

As we start our fourth quarter, I look forward to continuing to provide support to your clubs. Please contact me if you have questions or need information.

Linda Ingersoll

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South Haven, MI 49090

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Bringing Out the Best in Kids

Don Brose

MI District Governor-Elect

"Bringing out the Best in Kids" is the major emphasis today in our clubs, our district, and in Optimist International. It is on all of our new banners. It's on our website. It's everywhere. The emphasis on "Friend of Youth" has slowly been reduced over the past couple of years on most of Optimist International product and stationary. This is quite the change. At first, I was a bit unhappy about this progression, for "Friend of Youth" sounded a little more sophisticated to me. It is what I have been accustomed to over the past and it really is what we are as Optimists, and I liked it. I was also never very fond about the term "kid", I've always preferred "student", "youth", or "young people". Yet as I hear it more and more, the more I like it, and understand it.. The two mottos really work very well together for "Friend of Youth" is who we are, and "Bringing out the Best in Kids" is what we do. What a perfect combination.

Our service organization is quite special. Our service organization brings out the best kids everyday. The vast majority of our projects involve the "direct connection" with young people. Think about our oratorical, our tri-star sports, our youth clubs. We're out there with the youth. We're not telling them what to do, but we're setting an example. They see us working with them. That's why the Optimists are the most effective youth support Organization in the nation. We make that direct connection and we set the example. We Bring Out the Best in Kids. That's why all of us are special...we care.

The volunteers of the Michigan District have one charge. Our charge is to help clubs succeed. That's why we have conferences. That's why we have Lieutenant Governors who call on your club. We want you and your club to thrive in order to bring out the best in as many kids as possible. The best way to succeed is to prepare and share. That's why we are offering some wonderful opportunities for clubs to prepare and share for the Optimist year 2005-2006.

We're fortunate to have Optimist International President-Elect Mike Listenberger attending, leading, and supporting our sessions. We hope your club will be represented at the Club President Training on Saturday, September 24 in Sarnia, or Sunday, September 25 in Kalamazoo. Our goal is 100% representation. Details will arrive to your club no later than July 25.

There are still opportunities to serve the district in the 2005-2006 year. Our committee heads are appointed, but they will need help. Committee members...that is what we need. We'll have sign up sheets at tables at the world's best Bay City convention. You can also email me broseelectric@msn.com. I'll make sure you're there.

I wish you all good health, good business, and good service.

Michigan District Raises \$3000 for Third Quarter

Fatima N. Plater

MI District Optimist International Foundation Representative

The 3rd Quarter Meeting, May 13-15, 2005, at the Holiday Inn Livonia West, **raised \$3000** for the Optimist International Foundation. Michigan District optimists once again showed generous giving. The Michigan District OIF committee is asking club members to continue donations of **silent auction items** for our 4th Quarter Convention, August 26-28th at the Doubletree Hotel and Conference Center in Bay City, Michigan.

I'd like to personally thank Bay City, Grand Blanc, Loving Community, Metro Riverfront, Roseville, and West Branch Optimist Clubs for selling "I Believe..." wristbands for childhood cancer research. We will have more wristbands available at the convention in Bay City.

There will be a special **President's Club Member Reception** Friday evening at the 4th Quarter Convention and it's not too late to join us with a **\$250.00** donation to the Foundation, sent to OI with an application. This money is going directly to the Foundation to create a local club grant fund. If you aren't a member, just bring your check and join us on the patio by the Bay.

I'd like to thank all of the MI District Optimists who have supported the Foundation thus far and I'm looking forward to thanking those individual members and clubs that will make contributions before **September 30th**. All of you help make our organization strong and continue its vital programs that "**Build a Future Where Every Kid Counts**".



Membership: *Will you Leave an Optimist Legacy?*

Betty J. Howard

MI District Membership Chair

As a true Optimist you will want to leave a legacy that says "I made a difference in the lives of 35 children for each new Optimist International Member I recruited." Also, at the same time I made all my friends feel that there is something in them to benefit our future generation. HOW WILL YOUR LEGACY READ?

We have only three months remaining to increase our membership and to round up our inactive members for 2004-2005. That means we still have time to change our world by having every member get a new member. Invite someone in your world today. **"JUST ASK"**

Our Governor has challenged us to take part in the Michigan District Optimist Membership Growth Incentive Program in an effort to recognize individuals who sponsor new optimist members. The incentives are:

- All individuals who sponsor 3 new members between February 1st and June 30, 2005 will have their name entered into a drawing for **free registration** at the Michigan District Convention in Bay City, August 26-28, 2005.
- All individuals who sponsor 5 new members between February 1st and June 30, 2005 will have their name entered into a drawing for **free registration and two nights lodging** at the Michigan District Convention in Bay City, August 26-28, 2005.
- All individuals who sponsor 10 new members between February 1st and June 30, 2005 will **automatically receive free registration and two nights lodging** at the Michigan District Convention in Bay City, August 26-28, 2005.



Michigan District Welcomes OI Vice President Essie Johnson

The Michigan District is honored to have International Vice President Essie Johnson as a guest at our District Convention this year.

On the International level, Essie has been actively involved since 2000 as a member of the Ad Hoc Diversity Committee, the JOOI Committee, the Club Services and Tracking Committee and the Activities Committee.

Essie comes to us from Knoxville, Tennessee. She began her involvement in Optimist activities as a Distinguished Charter President, 1994-1995. She was the Club's OI Foundation representative 1995-1999, Secretary/Treasurer 2001-2003, has chaired many club committees and achieved the Builder of Excellence designation.

Essie Johnson will be featured in our morning business session of the District Convention and will share with us the proposed changes to the structure of OI. Please join us in welcoming Essie in Bay City.

Essie was distinguished Governor of the Tennessee District for the 1998-1999 year. She also served as Lt. Governor, 1995-1996, was a chairperson for New Club Building and Oratorical Contest and held the office of Assistant Governor, 2002-2003. Essie was inducted into the Inaugural Class of the Tennessee District Hall of Fame in 2003.



OPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL



Attend the 2004-2005 MI District Convention

Jeanna Clifford and Terry Sabo
MI District Convention Co-Chairs

Its convention time and we are looking forward to having you join us at the beautiful Double Tree Hotel located on the east bank of the Saginaw River in the heart of historic downtown Bay City. Double Tree was newly opened in 2004; the first class facilities are within walking distance of over 120 specialty shops, restaurants, and attractions. We have a lot of exciting activities and breakout sessions for you to enjoy. Come join us Friday evening in our hospitality suite, which we have a spectacular view over the Saginaw River for great camaraderie and wonderful food hosted by Polly Thomas and her team. Saturday morning is your opportunity for learning and receiving some terrific ideas to take back to your club. Saturday evening join us for dinner, awards, and installation of our new officers. Immediately following we will be taking a River Cruise on the Princess Wenonah.

An early morning memorial service will be held on Sunday as we honor those club members who have passed during the year. Immediately following, join us for breakfast and fellowship.

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 **August 19, 2005**. Room rate is \$89.00.

Double Tree Hotel
One Wenonah Park Place
Bay City, MI 48708

Attention All Golfers!

Plan on arriving early on Friday to join us for golfing at one of the beautiful golf courses located in the Bay City area. I have made arrangements for golfing at Bay Valley Golf Course with tee times starting at 9:00 a.m. The cost for 18 holes including a cart is \$44.00

Make reservations by contacting Dana Monville at 989-714-7620 (cell), 989-671-1287 (home), or by e-mail at kardana@ameritech.net. Make reservations early...first come, first serve!

Optimist Memorial Service

The Michigan District recognizes Optimist Club Members who have passed away since the previous District Convention at a Memorial Service. This year the Memorial Service will be held in conjunction with the District Convention on Sunday, August 28th at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City.

If a member of your club has passed away since our last District Convention please let me know by e-mailing me the information (marcoblue1@hotmail.com) or calling me (248.219.5949) no later than August 1st. That way your member will be recognized at the Memorial Service and will also be listed in the memorial Service program.

There will be an opportunity during the Memorial Service for a member of your club to say a few brief words about the deceased member.

Notes from your Hospitality Queens

Polly Thomas and Myra LaPoutre
MI District Hospitality Co-Chairs

Come party in the Michigan District Convention Hospitality Room Friday August 25th beginning at 7:00pm. We'll have food and fun with Island flair. Following training on Saturday, stay for dinner where Governor-Elect Don Brose and his "Team" will be installed. After dinner change out of your business wear for a river cruise on the Princess Wenonah with music by the Pear-it-Hedz. Please note the change to Saturday night dinner attire. We don't want to confuse Don by wearing flowered shirts to dinner and have him think he's being installed as Governor of Hawaii. If you haven't already decided to attend, please give it serious consideration. This is your convention and it won't be the same without you.

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: **Don't Be Left Out...Each Optimist member that registers before August 19th for** :
: **the Fourth Quarter District Convention will receive an extra incentive in their** :
: **registration packet. Please encourage ALL club members to pre-register.** :
:
:



Message from "First Man" Spouse & Children Activities for District Convention

Dana Monville
MI District First Man

Amazing! July is here and my year as "*First Man of The Michigan District*" of Optimist International will be over before I know it. As I reflect back on the past nine months, I cannot help but get a warm feeling as I think of all the great events that your Governor Karen and I have attended and the many, many clubs that we have visited and partook in not only their meeting, but also in their events. From a pajama party in St. Louis to a masquerade party at the Governor's training in Quebec City, Quebec; from the Governor's Conference in Jamaica to District meetings in Ontario, Canada, and Southern Wisconsin; from a costume party in northern Wisconsin, where along with our Vice President Dee and Barb Rushforth and the Governors of Canada we surprised President Yves and First Lady Ginette, to a private tour of the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana, (provided by Lt. Governor Tom Majerek). With everything that we have experienced, nothing will compare to the fine people that I have met from our own Michigan District. **We are the Best of the Best!**

Now, on to spouse activities at our Michigan District Convention to be held in Bay City on August 26th-28th. Downtown Bay City offers something for everyone! From the Delta College Planetarium to some of the best boutique shops found in Michigan. Walking tours of local art galleries and some of the best antiquing in Michigan are available. Voted the Biggest and Best by readers of AAA Michigan Living Magazine, the Bay City Antique Center houses the state's

largest collection of antique dealers. On Saturday morning we have one of our local specialty shops, "**You Do The Dishes**", coming to the Double Tree where we will learn how to paint one of a kind ceramic pieces. The cost of this hands-on work shop is \$20.00 and includes your choice of ceramic pieces, paint, stencils, stamps, sponges and the firing of your work of art. If you are like me and have no artsy talent, the friendly staff of "*You Do The Dishes*" will be there to give us directions. From there we will be able to have lunch, at an additional charge, at one of the many restaurants Bay City is known for. I have selected one that is located on the river where we can eat dockside. Our evening entertainment will be a cruise on the Saginaw River with Jimmy Buffet like music. I do hope to see everyone there!

Bonnie Weber, our District Youth Activities Chairperson, has a full day of activity scheduled for the youth. They will start their day at Studio 23 where they will be "Creating Their Own Masterpiece"; then it will be on to "You Do The Dishes" for tile painting. After lunch at McDonalds, they will go to the Historical Museum of Bay County. All of these locations are within walking distance of the hotel. The cost for this full day, including lunch, is \$15.00. There will also be evening activities for the youth if there is enough interest.

Eleanor Donley. . .An Optimist Friend Fondly Remembered

Marc Katz
MI District Immediate Past Governor

It is very sad to have to report that a long-time member of the MI District passed away on Saturday, July 16, 2005. Eleanor Donley was 86 years old. She served as President for three terms for the Greater Muskegon Optimist Club.. I remember her most for serving as Lt. Governor in Zone 2 during the 2003-2004 "Making a Difference, Yes We Can" year. During her year as Lt. Governor she not only was an Honor Lt. Governor, but also, a Distinguished Lt. Governor.

Eleanor was an inspiration to all who had the opportunity to come in contact with her. She not only inspired club members that she met but was also an inspiration to me and all of my team during my year as Governor. She never complained about her health and did all the things required as Lt. Governor. While many others would complain that the job was too hard or that too much was expected of them, Eleanor was the role model and the standard that I would hold up when discussing the Lt. Governor position. I remember that last year when I was conducting Lt. Governor training in the Ohio District, one of the Lt. Governor-Elects told me that he didn't know if he could do all that was expected of him. After relating to him about Eleanor and the job that she was doing, his comment was, " Maybe I'd better just shut up and do the job that is expected." Eleanor touched people that she didn't even know and her accomplishments will be long remembered by her Michigan District friends.



Lou Moss, Candidate for 2006-2007 Governor

We “Expect Success” as Optimists

Lou Moss

Candidate for 2006-2007 Governor

As Optimists, when we “expect success” ...it happens. Just think of the Optimist Creed. Every tenant speaks of expecting success— from “keeping your peace of mind” to “being too happy to permit the presence of trouble”.

It is with an expectation of success and great enthusiasm that I announce my candidacy for Governor of the Michigan District Optimists for the 2006-2007 Optimist year.

As a member of the **Clinton Township Area Optimist Club** for 15 years, I can honestly say that being involved in the organization has changed my life. The great people that I have met, including my husband **Dan**, have had a tremendous personal impact. Through the years, my increased involvement has yielded an incredible amount of personal satisfaction. I am now ready, upon voted approval in August, to make a commitment to everyone in the Michigan District, and together, we will “expect success” for optimism in our communities.

New Club Building is a special dedication that I enjoy. To see a club grow and become successful in a community is one of the greatest pleasures of being an Optimist. I have been personally involved in building the following clubs: **Clinton Township Area Optimist Club, Clawson-Troy Optimist Club, Roseville Optimist Club, St. Clair Shores Optimist Club, Shelby Township Area Optimist Club** and **Central Macomb Optimist Club**. I was a key

builder for Clinton Township, Clawson-Troy, Roseville, and Central Macomb. In 2002, I became a member of a second Optimist Club, the **Shelby Township Area Optimist Club**, as a charter member.

It has been a pleasure to work closely with several Past Governors and I am looking forward to calling on their experience and expertise in leadership. I know that we have many Optimist members who have been doing great things in their own communities. I plan to encourage them to become more involved at the district level. Continued development of communication is another priority. Good communication between clubs and the district can increase our service to youth by sharing ideas and inspirations.

I have attended every Optimist International Convention since the 1990-1991 Optimist year. I trust that my experience and my love of Optimism will assist me in leading our district.

But first, we need to concentrate on this Optimist year with a special thanks to **Governor Karen Monville** for her determination and leadership. In October, **Governor-Elect Don Brose** will take the helm for another exciting Optimist year.

I humbly request your support and vote at the Michigan District Convention in Bay City. If elected, I promise to do my best to continue the tradition and “expect success” in our great Michigan District.

Lou Moss Optimist History:

1990: Helped form the Clinton Township Area Optimist Club and became a charter member; Club Board member from 1990 to the present

1991-1992: Club President—Grand Slam (four times) Distinguished

1992-1993: MI District Membership and Attendance Region 3 Chair

1993-1994: Zone 15 Lt Governor

1995-1996: MI District Conventions and Meetings Committee; MI District Life Membership Chair

1996-1997: International Convention Host Committee, Services Committee Coordinator; MI District Honor and Distinguished Club Chair

1997-1998: MI District Conventions and Meetings Committee; MI District Membership and Attendance Region 3 Chair

1998-1999: MI District Convention and Meetings Co-Chair; MI District Membership and Attendance Region 3 Chair

1999-2000: MI District OptiViews “Co-Editor”; MI District Conventions and Meetings Co-Chair; MI District Membership and Attendance Region 3 Chair

2000-2001: MI District Communications/Marketing Chair; MI District OptiViews “Co-Editor”; MI District Long Range Planning Committee

2002: Inducted into the MI District Hall of Fame

2002-2003: Michigan Leadership Development Chair

2003-2004: MI District New Club Building Co-Chair





Optimists In Action

Nicole M Ingersoll

Editor

It has been a very successful Optimist year. Springtime always gets people motivated to do more activities and allows for the true experience of being "Optimists in Action". So let's take a look at what area clubs have done this past quarter.

The first place winner, Joshua Rule, of the Ludington Oratorical Contest was also the winner of the entire Michigan District. Congratulations to the **Optimist Club of Ludington** for putting on a successful event. The club also held a Junior Golf Tournament over Memorial Day Weekend and was able to send three local golfers to the MI District Tournament.

Since May was Respect for Law month, the **Optimist Club of Ann Arbor** held a Respect for Law Poster Design Contest and area 7th and 8th graders participated in the event.

The **Breakfast Optimist Club of Kalamazoo** held their 1st Annual CCC Golf Outing in June and raised over \$1000 for childhood cancer research. Nine foursomes participated and the club hopes to double that next year.

The **Pennfield Optimist Club**, with help from the Central Elementary Earth Savers Club, had an "Optimists in Action" paper drive on May 7. They recycled many pounds of newspapers, magazines, cardboard, telephone books, and catalogs. Their efforts helped to save 25 trees.

The **Clawson/Troy Optimist Club** has been busy with a candy sale to raise \$3000 for student scholarships, a NOW meeting with special guest Governor Karen, and putting together a Junior Optimists float that was in the 4th of July parade.

Despite the gloomy, cool weather on May 22, several Optimists from the **Auburn Hills Club** volunteered to deliver Meals on Wheels to Auburn Hills seniors. The Club volunteers for 3 routes on the 4th Sunday of every month.

It took them 3 days to cover 3 miles but the **Bay City Noon Optimist Club** got the job done as they participated in the Highway Clean-up program. With an Optimistic attitude, the weather won't interfere next time. Thanks goes to the "Great Trash Bash Team".

The **Alpena Optimist Club** has had another successful event in raising money for the Childhood Cancer Fund. They held a benefit hockey game in which the Club ran the concession stand, held raffles for kids prizes, and had 2-50/50 drawings. Around 800 people were in attendance and over \$4800 was donated to families of children with cancer through the Alpena Regional Medical Center's Cancer Center.

Every club contributes to the success of the Michigan District and we want to hear about it. So please forward that information to the Optimist In Action chair via email or U.S. mail.

Nicole Ingersoll
536 Green St
South Haven, MI 49090
ingenm@hotmail.com

Scrapbook and CPA

Michelle (Rollinger) Kauffold

MI District Scrapbook & CPA Chair

Did your club take pride in the events and activities that you did in the 2004-2005 Optimist year? Did you make a scrapbook so your club can cherish those memories? The MI District would like to see what you have done. Please bring your scrapbooks to the 4th Quarter District Convention, August 26-28th in Bay City. Judging will take place on Saturday only. The winners will be announced later that day and presented with a ribbon. Judging will be based on 5 categories and club size. A grand prize will be presented to the best overall winner. If a club member is not able to bring the scrapbook to the convention it may be mailed to: **Michelle Kauffold, 429 McKinley Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.**

Please contact me if you have further questions: (313) 885-5407 or email: mrollinger@roseville.k12.mi.us

If you did not do a scrapbook but focused on one event in particular, we encourage all clubs to do a CPA (Community Projects Award) book and submit them by September 30, 2005. Although it is no longer an honor club requirement, we as a District would like to submit our best projects to Optimist International. Please send your CPA books to me and members of the District will help to decide the winners so we may forward them on to OI.



FFOORREE!! . . . District Junior Golf Results

Harry Margo
OI Junior Golf Championship Chair

This year, the Michigan District Junior Golf Championship tournament took place on June 27 at the Elks Highland Golf Course in Grand Rapids, MI. I would like to thank some people who helped with this year; without them we would not be able to pull this off with such ease and class. #1 of course are all the clubs who held their own tournament and sent golfers to the District. #2 is the people behind the scenes that we don't always hear about and see. Our thanks goes to my wife Kathi who spent hours behind the computer making sure we had the proper info for all the kids to play, our own Governor Karen and her husband Dana who came down and spent the weekend in Grand Rapids helping out with last minute details and working the tournament at the registration table and wherever we needed her. Many thanks to Immediate Past Governor Marc Katz who spent the entire evening helping sort out the registration forms to match cards and assignments; to Sherry and her son Joe who came down a day early to learn the course and to be at the tournament all day to help with registration and to work the tournament; to all the rangers Rich, Ted, Don, Joe, and most of all to the Pro at Highlands, Steve Wollock, who helped in every step of the tournament. I THANK YOU ALL. And the winners are:

PLACE	16-18 YEAR OLDS	CLUB	SCORE
<u>Boys</u>			
1st	Marty Jeppesen	Ann Arbor	72
2nd (Tie)	Tommy Lucko	Livonia	75
	Isaac Mulvilhill	Kent/Grand Rapids Clubs	75
	Chris Vanscholck	Jackson	75

Tie Breaker Results were determined by highest HDCP Hole

Tommy Lucko won 2nd Place

<u>Girls</u>			
1st	Caitlin Bennett	Grosse Pointe/ St. Claire Shores Clubs	84
2nd	Elise Swartout	Ann Arbor	87

PLACE	14-15 YEAR OLDS	CLUB	SCORE
<u>Boys</u>			
1st	Joe Adcox	Muskegon/Whitelake Clubs	73
2nd	Nick Sayles	Kent/Grand Rapids Clubs	74
<u>Girls</u>			
1st	Brandy Roth	Muskegon/Whitelake Clubs	84
2nd	Veronica Laird	Farmington Hills	92

PLACE	12-13 YEAR OLD BOYS	CLUB	SCORE
1st	Nicholas Dennis	Clarkston	74
2nd	Jared Dalga	Kent/Grand Rapids Clubs	75

PLACE	10-11 YEAR OLD BOYS	CLUB	SCORE
1st (Tie)	Francesco Ruffino	Southfield-Lathrup	40 (9 Holes)
	Collin Breit	Muskegon/Whitelake Clubs	40 (9 Holes)

Tie breaker with a sudden death shoot out on hole #1

Francesco Ruffino shot a birdie on the hole and won.



Who You Are Does Make A Difference

Author Unknown

A teacher in New York decided to honor each of her seniors in High School by telling them the difference each of them had made. She called each student to the front of the class, one at a time. First, she told each of them how they made a difference to her, and the class. Then she presented each of them with a blue ribbon, imprinted with gold letters, which read, "Who I Am Makes a Difference".

Afterwards, the teacher decided to do a class project, to see what kind of impact recognition would have on a community. She gave each of the students three more ribbons, and instructed them to go out and spread this acknowledgment ceremony. They were to follow up on the results, see who honored whom, and report back to the class in about a week.

One of the boys in the class went to a junior executive in a nearby company and honored him for helping him with his career planning. He gave him a blue ribbon, and put it on his shirt. Then he gave him two extra ribbons and said, "We're doing a class project on recognition, and we'd like for you to go out, find somebody to honor, give them a blue ribbon, then give them the extra blue ribbon so they can acknowledge a third person, to keep this acknowledgement ceremony going. Please report back to me and tell me what happened." Later that day, the junior executive went in to see his boss, who had been noted, by the way, as being kind of a grouchy fellow. He sat his boss down, and he told him that he deeply admired him for being a creative genius. The boss seemed very surprised. The junior executive asked him if he would accept the gift of the blue ribbon, and would he give him permission to put it on him.

His surprised boss said, "Well, sure". The junior executive took the blue ribbon and placed it right on his boss' jacket, above his heart. As he gave him the last extra ribbon, he said, "Would you take this extra ribbon, and pass it on by honoring somebody else? The young boy who first gave me the ribbons is doing a project in school, and we want to keep this recognition ceremony going and find out how it affects people."

That night, the boss came home to his 14-year old son, and sat him down. He said, "The most incredible thing happened to me today. I was in the office, and one of my junior executives came in and told me he admired me, and gave me a blue ribbon for being a creative genius. Imagine! He thinks I'm a creative genius! Then he put this blue ribbon that says, "Who I Am Makes a Difference", on my jacket above my heart. He gave me an extra ribbon and asked me to find someone else to honor.

As I was driving home tonight, I started thinking about whom I would honor with this ribbon, and I thought about you. I want to honor you. My days are really hectic and when I come home, I don't pay a lot of attention to you. Sometimes I scream at you for not getting good enough grades in school, and for your bedroom being a mess. But somehow tonight, I just wanted to sit here and, well, just let you know that you do make a difference to me. Besides your mother, you are the most important person in my life. You're a great kid, and I love you!"

The startled boy started to sob and sob, and he couldn't stop crying. His whole body shook. He looked up at his father and said through his tears, "Dad, earlier tonight I sat in my room and wrote a letter to you and Mom, explaining why I had killed myself, and I asked you to forgive me. I was going to commit suicide tonight after you were asleep. I just didn't think that you cared at all. The letter is upstairs. I don't think I need it after all." His father walked upstairs and found a heartfelt letter full of anguish and pain.

The boss went back to work a changed man. He was no longer a grouch, but made sure to let all of his employees know that they made a difference. The junior executive helped several other young people with career planning, and never forgot to let them know that they made a difference in his life...one being the boss' son. And the young boy and his classmates learned a valuable lesson...

WHO YOU ARE DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



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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.

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