



OptiViews

Michigan District
Optimist International

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Apr/May/June 2011

WELCOME OUR NEWEST CLUB TO THE MICHIGAN DISTRICT FAMILY

Metro S.T.A.N.D. (Students, Teachers And
Neighborhood Development) of Detroit was
born February 13, 2011



Front Row (L to R): Moyna Moore (Secretary-Treasurer), Fiona Hinds, Linda Carter, Vivian Tolliver.
Middle Row (L to R): Governor Jan Oord (Club Builder—Kalamazoo Breakfast), Diane Flemming, Mary Latta, Latifah Abduliah, Kevin Latta, Jocelyn Harris, Mary Griffin (President), Fatima Plater (Club Bulider—Detroit Metro Riverfront). Back Row (L to R): Dave Fries (Michigan NCB Chair), Lou Moss (OI Field Representative), Beverly Gardner, Joseph Griffin, Stanley Shelton Jr., Stanley Harris



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Michigan Optimists on a Roll!

Janet Oord

governorjan@gmail.com or (269) 873-1954
Michigan District 2010-2011 Governor

Hello Michigan Optimists!

Here we are half way through the 2010-2011 Optimist year and what a great first half it has been! Our meeting in Lansing was fabulous. It was great to see so many of you enjoying camaraderie with one another - 160 strong (with 27 being first timers)! Our Third Quarter Conference in Dearborn promises to be just as great, with club-led round table discussions (sharing outstanding club activities and processes), relevant break out sessions and our inspiring, tear jerking Michigan District Oratorical Contest. You know what they say about the early bird - register now

for this great opportunity to network and learn together. At this time we are planning for the round table discussions and would love to showcase new ideas. If you have a great club project or process to share (or know of a club that should share), let me know.

Have you ever heard of the The Tipping Point? It is a book written by Malcolm Gladwell in which he describes the occurrence of numerous small events that "spark" or "tip" the outbreak of a major event, trend or change. I feel this happening, Michigan Optimists! Many "small", positive, powerful Optimist events are happening across our great District. *(Continued on Page 2)*



(Continued from Page 1)

According to Gladwell, these small events are what get a trend moving and swell into a major happening. Do not underestimate the importance of your part, my Optimist friends. The work that each of you do, to bring out the best in kids and keep our Michigan District growing, is part of the big picture that makes a huge difference for the children in Michigan.

I am thrilled to announce the birth of our first new club this year! Metro S.T.A.N.D. (Students, Teachers and Neighborhood Development) of Detroit was sponsored by Metro Riverfront and Kalamazoo Breakfast. I was honored to build this club with Past Governor Fatima Plater. Our very own Lou Moss served as the Optimist International Field Representative, certifying the charter of this club on February 13. It truly is inspiring to work with the charter members as they plan the service they will provide. There are several other new clubs in the works across our great District. I can feel the excitement building across Michigan; we are on a roll. Can you feel it? Be part of the epidemic that causes an outbreak of Optimism across the Mighty Michigan District.

Numerous clubs are "Focusing" on "New Optimists Welcome" (NOW) right now. Yes, of course, we always welcome new members to our clubs, but a NOW is also a meeting to inform potential members about the wonderful things that your club does and give them an opportunity to be a part of it. Clubs organize NOW meetings in many ways: during a regular club meeting, at a special event or club activity or at a banquet. Your club decides which format best meets your needs. The key to success is to

share your club activities and show them that by "Providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids!". Many clubs have had incredible success with holding a NOW meeting, even bringing in 10 - 20 new members. Can you see it, Michigan Optimists? Can you see that by increasing the number of Optimists in our Mighty District we will reach that critical Optimistic mass and provide service to ALL of the youth in need across our great state?



One of the bonuses of serving as your Governor is getting to meet so many Michigan Optimists and witness the many wonderful services that clubs provide. It has been truly inspiring to see so many club activities in person, as well as hear the love, care and enthusiasm in the voices of Michigan Optimists as they describe their work for the children in their community. Keep up the inspiring work Michigan Optimists. I am proud to count myself among you!

If you have an idea, question or concern you would like to discuss with me, do not hesitate to contact me. There is no idea too small. In fact, remember that it is the accumulation of each of us that define us as the Mighty Michigan District. We're on a roll Michigan, be a part of this movement - let's reach that "Tipping Point" together!

Yours in Optimism,

Jan

Janet Oord, 2010-2011 Governor
Michigan District Optimist International

Michigan Optimists congratulate Past Distinguished Governor Lou Moss as she has been nominated and approved by the OI Board of Directors as Vice President of the Great Lakes Region for the 2012-2013 Optimist year. The election will be at the OI Convention in Baltimore this summer. Congratulations Lou!

It's That Time— Club Dues and Officer Election Reports

Jeanna Clifford

cliffordjec@aol.com or (810) 287-2530
Michigan District Secretary-Treasurer

We are in the home stretch of our Optimist year, but we still have a lot to do. The Third Quarter dues billing will be going out the first week in April to all club Treasurers. Please make sure these are paid in a timely manner. At our Second Quarter Conference in Lansing, Governor Jan and I passed out the qualifications on achieving the Master Secretary Award. Just paying your district dues on time is one of the qualifications. If you haven't seen the form yet you can go to the Michigan District website (www.michiganoptimists.org) to download it.

Just a reminder that ALL clubs need to submit their *Officer Elect Report by May 20, 2011*, this includes returning officers. This report is so important to Optimist International and the Michigan District to remain in communication with your club. You can go to www.optimistleaders.org and click on "Reports" then "Officer Elect Report." Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



FOCUSing on the Growth of Our Michigan District Family

Welcome Our Newest Members Added 12/01/10—02/28/11



Bay City—Noon

Sandra Covaleski
Marcy Dinauer
Karen Haight
Mary Klepser
Pati Lalonde
Donnley Tomkins
Coral Aguilar
Krystal Casey
Erin Wenz
Terry Watson

Berrien Springs

Richard Fedoruk

Niles

Lisa Busby

Ludington

Timothy McPherson

Kalamazoo—Breakfast

Sarah Bleeker
Lewis Smalligan
Deb Wild
Abigail Franklin

Davison

Scott Kowalczyk

Clarkston Area

James Ward

Charlotte

Jay Gowell

Gerard Schneider

Detroit—Faith, Hope, & Love

Edith Fails
Raymond Tolliver

Southfield Lathrup

Angelena Waller

Pontiac

Barbara Raby

Detroit—Metro Riverfront

Shirley Willett

Detroit—Western Int'l

Irma Hamilton

Tamara Griffin

Plymouth

Mark Aldrich

Detroit—Loving Community

Mary McMillan

David Harris

Terrye Embry

Battle Creek

Beverly Halder

Lawrence Harris

William Walters

Battle Creek—Harper Creek

Rob Coles

Melissa Heffner-Guthrie

Vincent Pavone

Linda Powell

Michael Steagall

OCC Auburn Hills

Kathy Balthrop

Clinton Township Area

Richard Rayos

Scottville

Patricia Bush
Scott Shoup

Lake Orion Area

Chris Barnett

William Baumann

Amber Bies

Rachelle Campbell

Tiffany Phillips

Rebecca West

Fenton Area

Julie Brown

Heidie Ciesielski

Casey Ward

Jeffrey Canever

Todd Petty

Clawson Troy

Marisa Reisdorf

West Bloomfield

Crystal Brooks

Gail Kosmensky

Barbara Laduke

Lisa Rochford

Michelle Economoureste

William Fanfalone

Debbie Feldman

Marsha Gershenson

Lorraine Lotzoff

Patricia Spadafore

Detroit—Northwest

Ronald Jackson

Detroit—Hartford Community

Shirley Johnson
Ruby Jones
Marie Randolph

Central Macomb

Vito Wasniewski

Lisa Czarniawski

John Czarniawski

Detroit—Greater Northeast

Sandra Brown

Shirley Bynum

Grace Dixon

Dorothea Paul

Morene Scott

Clarissia Valentine

Traverse City

Tim Baker

Decatur

Jeanna Dykman

Gratiot County

Jennifer Bakos

Shelly Buschele

Lisa Christensen

Sheila Clark-Hodge

Suzanne Derry

Daymond Grifka

David Justin

Lorrie Siler

Carolyn Studley

Garrett Whitmore

Keith Wing

Flint—West

Terry Jones

Huron Valley

Lisabeth Adams

Farmington Hills—Breakfast

Nick Waldecker

Troy

Pat Miller

Auburn Hills—Noon

Donald Bailey

Metro S.T.A.N.D.—Detroit

Latifah Abdullah

Regina Brown

Lawrence Carter

Linda Charter

Tiffany Flagg

Diane Fleming

Beverly Gardner

Mary Griffin

Joseph Griffin

Jocelyn Harris

Stan Harris

Norma Hernandez

Fiona Hinds

Jessica Howell

Kevin Latta

Mary Latta

Cheryl Major

Moyna Moore

Jan Oord

Stanley Shelton, Jr.

Classie Thomas

Vivian Toliver

Zelinda Toliver

Lisa Wilmore

Celeste Wilson

Nicole Wood

growth!



Kudos to Our New Member Sponsors Success During 12/01/10—02/28/11

Bay City—Noon

Barbara Skowronski
Joellen Strieter
Roberta Gellise
Karen Monville
Diane Thompson
Amy Phillips
Jeffrey Staudacher
Richard Donahue

Ludington

Deborah Wright

Scottville

Lawrence Adams
Matthew Knizacky

Kalamazoo—Breakfast

Dee Ann Dopp
Jan Oord
Laurie Montgomery
Kate Holaday

Davison

Denise Kowalczyk

Clarkston Area

Jeffrey Reed

Southfield Lathrup

Cheryl Thames

Detroit—Metro Riverfront

Fatima Plater

Detroit—Western Int'l

Harriet Cosby

Lawrence Colfee

Plymouth

William Baumgartner

Detroit—Loving Community

Vivian Weaver

Brenda Meeks

Berrien Springs

Sharon Fedoruk

Niles

Diane Bass

Detroit—Faith, Hope, & Love

Delbert Fails

Shirley Tolliver

Battle Creek

Angie Gresley

Robert Zuhl

Jack Martin

Battle Creek—Harper Creek

Terry Eisen

Duncan Bailey

Kandra Bennett

Charlotte

Roger Carr

OCC Auburn Hills

Stephanie Shoulders

Lake Orion Area

Katherine Baumann

Kelly Weaver

Flint West

David Crabill

Huron Valley

Julie Haas

Auburn Hills—Noon

Henry Knight

Fenton Area

Jeffrey Phillips

Christopher Simon

Cherie Smith

Casey Ward

Clawson Troy

Rocco Romano

West Bloomfield

Margie Schwartz

Brian Flaggs

Thomas Butler

Jeffrey Leib

Detroit—Northwest

William Waterman

Detroit—Hartford Community

Alicia Robinson

Detroit—Greater Northeast

Pamela McKinney

Fred Tandy

Mary Shields

Flossie Shannon

Central Macomb

Pat Rabaut-Miller

Kelley Wallis

Lisa Czarniawski

Traverse City

Tim Brock

Decatur

Willette Fleischmann

Gratiot County

Patrick Duffy

Keith Virgo

Barbara McKenzie

Tina Travis

Linda Williams

Mark Szymczak

Clinton Township Area

Dan Moss

Scha-mokin' Hot!



Debra J. Berry

debinparis@sbcglobal.net or (248) 467-0592
Michigan District Direct of Committees

Committee Chairs – are you on target with your 2010—2011 Committee Goals? *Many thanks* to all who responded to my emails/phone calls to check on your status. Michigan District committees are hard at work, bringing out the “best” in your committee, ensuring the success of the District. The hot – hot – hot energy ever present at the Second Quarter District Meeting in Lansing was evidence that YOUR committee work is visible, viable and appreciated! Thanks to all who created the fantastic EXPO displays and were available for questions!

The Third Quarter Conference in May is another great opportunity to update the District on what is happening in our committees.

Please plan to display in the Expo area – we would love to reserve 10 tables or more! Let me know if one of those tables is for you! Also, you will receive an email (approx. May 1) asking for your committee updates for the **SCHA-MOKIN' HOT COMMITTEE REPORTS**, to be distributed at Third Quarter. Let's show those Oratorical families and First Timers just what great work goes on behind the scenes and in our communities and bring in some curious new Optimist members as a result!

Thanks for all of you – it takes a *Scha-mokin' Hot Committee Chair* to get the work done! See you in May!



Developing Great Optimists at the Third Quarter Meeting

Marc Katz

marcgoblue1@gmail.com

(248) 219-5949

Harry Margo

ceioffice3268@sbcglobal.net

(616) 475-1167

Chris Shults

clshults@sbcglobal.net

(269) 349-0972

Michigan District Leadership Development Team

Our Second Quarter Meeting was a great success – BIG thanks to those who came to Lansing! If you didn't attend, you missed a great weekend! With a "Focus" on relevance and engagement for all members, the theme was member involvement and bringing fun to your meetings. New presenters and dynamic sessions insured that everyone went home with new and relevant ideas to apply to their clubs. Plus, did we mention ALL THE FUN WE HAD?

Looking forward to the Third Quarter Meeting...

By the time the meeting rolls around, your club should have new officers elected. And your Zone should have decided on a nominee for Lieutenant Governor for next year. At some point during the business sessions we will be voting on those nominated for Lieutenant Governor. Make sure you attend, so that your club's voice is represented in these elections.

If you've never been to a Quarterly Meeting before and you're thinking about attending one, do yourself a favor and make it to this

THIRD QUARTER Meeting. For many, the highlight of all the quarterly meetings is the third, when our District's Oratorical Contest finalists compete for the first place medallion and scholarship. Prepare to be inspired as you hear the talented boys and girls orate on "If I were leader of the free world, the first issue I would address, would be..." The Optimist Oratorical Contest is one of Optimist International's oldest, most revered and respected programs, and if you join us in Dearborn, May 14, you'll see why.

In addition to the elections and competitions, we will continue the fresh, new tabletop and breakout sessions and feature other new presenters.

Governor Jan is working very hard with this committee to come up with different formats for our meetings so that our members (that's YOU!) benefit. We would love to hear your feedback and get your suggestions too.



Looking for Optimist Leaders for 2011—2012!

Ray Finocchio

rfinocchio11@comcast.net or (248) 203-6635

Michigan District 2010-2011 Governor-Elect

Dear Fellow Michigan District Optimists,

WOW!! What an amazing weekend he had at our Second Quarter District Conference in Lansing. Everything from food, accommodations, and meeting rooms and especially the agenda and our Keynote Speaker were FABULOUS! Hearty congratulations to Governor Jan and her Leadership Team for staging a wonderful event. Past Governor Dorothy's Evening of Celebration, recognizing the Club and individual accomplishments from the 2009 – 2010 Optimist Year, was also a fantastic, inspiring event. Congratulations to Past Governor Dorothy and her Leadership Team for all you did last year, to bring out the best in kids. You truly SOARed!!

I was fortunate to be able to conduct two "Catch a Rising Star" breakout sessions at which I had the opportunity to meet with many of you and share some of my thoughts and ideas for the 2011 – 2012 Optimist Year. Many thanks to those of you who attended, and especially for your willingness to step up and

assume a leadership role in the District. As we've said many times before, we have the greatest District in Optimist International, primarily because of the talents and dedication of our Members. To maintain our strong position, we must constantly strive to bring forth new Members to join the District Leadership Team and share some of your ideas and thoughts. This is the time of year at which we look for our members to step up and join our Leadership Team.

So for those of you unable to attend our "Catch a Rising Star" sessions (they will not be repeated at our Third Quarter meeting), if you have an interest in being a part of our District Leadership Team, please contact me. I'll be happy to send you the orientation materials we used at the "Catch a Rising Star" sessions, and welcome any and all of you to step up and make a difference in the success of the Michigan District.

Best regards in Optimism,

Ray Finocchio, Governor-Elect



Candidate Qualifications Committee Seeking Governor for 2012—2013

Dorothy L. Tyler

tylerdot@yahoo.com or (734) 697-0958

Michigan District Candidate Qualifications Chairperson



Optimists, if you have tried all other positions in the District, NOW just might be the time to seek the position of GOVERNOR!

Nominations for Governor of the Michigan District for 2012—2013 are open. If you have been an active member in the Michigan District and feel you can lead the District, we want to hear from you!

District. Also, please state why you want to be Governor of the Michigan District Optimists. We would also appreciate at least three letters of reference—two from Optimists members and one from a non-Optimist member. Submit the completed packet by April 1, 2011 to:

Dorothy Tyler, District Chair
49167 Sonrisa Street
Belleville, MI 48111
(734) 697-0958 or (313) 477-2465

Please submit your letter of interest stating your involvement at the club and district level. List your club number, date you joined an Optimist club, and positions you have held in your club and in the



Michigan District Hall of Fame

Dorothy L. Tyler

tylerdot@yahoo.com or (734) 697-0958

Michigan District Hall of Fame Chairperson



The **Michigan District Hall of Fame** was established to reward good and effective leadership and to motivate good leaders to continue in a leadership capacity within the Michigan District of Optimist International. All Optimists of the Michigan District are eligible if they meet the established requirements.

Good leaders need to be rewarded for their service and motivated to continue to lead.

The **leadership talent** of our clubs is so rich and diverse that it **MUST** be preserved, nurtured and utilized for continued success. It is hoped that setting a personal goal of earning a place in the "**MICHIGAN DISTRICT HALL OF FAME**" will contribute to motivating excellent leaders to continue to serve as District Officers and Chairpersons.

Optimists may nominate themselves or be nominated by their Club President. In either case, the Club President must sign the nomination form to certify the nominee's good standing with the club. All nominations must be postmarked by April 1, 2011. All qualifying factors shall have been met prior to nomination. In addition, the nominee shall have demonstrated personal demeanor that is keeping with the philosophy and goals of Optimist International and the Michigan District.

The selection of candidates is accomplished by evaluating participation and the degree to which the requirements for induction have been completed.

Following is the criteria which is used for admission to the **HALL OF FAME**:

1. The nominee shall have had ten years of service to Optimism as a member in good standing of an Optimist Club or Clubs in the Michigan District;
2. The nominee shall have held the office of Lieutenant Governor and shall have attained status of either Distinguished President, Distinguished Lieutenant Governor or District Governor;
3. The nominee shall have served at least twice as a Michigan District committee chairperson;
4. The nominee shall have served on two or more Michigan District committees other than as chairperson;
5. The nominee shall have demonstrated personal demeanor that is keeping with the philosophy and goals of Optimist International and the Michigan District.

NOTE: If the nominee has not yet served as Lieutenant Governor, he/she has **NOT** met the requirements and should **NOT** be nominated at this time.



Michigan District Optimist Hall of Fame Nomination

Nomination submitted by: _____

Nominee's Name (Please print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Club Name: _____ Club #: _____

Club President: _____
Print Name *Signature*

Please answer the following questions concerning the nominee:

Has the nominee served a <u>minimum</u> of ten years as an Optimist in the Michigan District?	Yes	No	Specify the time period: From: _____ To: _____
Has the nominee held the office of Lieutenant Governor?	Yes	No	Year _____
Has the nominee attained the status of either Distinguished President or Distinguished Lieutenant Governor? District Governor (Circle one)	Yes	No	Distinguished President Distinguished Lt. Governor District Governor
Has the nominee served at least twice as a Michigan District Committee Chair? (Remember: Regional Chair does not meet this requirement)	Yes	No	Comm. _____ Year _____ Comm. _____ Year _____
Has the nominee served at least twice as a member (other than chair) of a Michigan District Committee? (Remember: Regional Chair may be counted as a committee member)	Yes	No	Comm. _____ Year _____ Comm. _____ Year _____
Is the nominee a member in good standing in your club?	Yes	No	
Is the nominee a member in good standing in the Michigan District?	Yes	No	
Has the nominee remained active by participating in your club projects and activities?	Yes	No	
COMMITTEE: All requirements completed?	Yes	No	

Return form to: Dorothy L. Tyler
 49167 Sonrisa Street
 Belleville, MI 48111

Deadline April 1, 2011



THE 2011 MICHIGAN DISTRICT JUNIOR GOLF TOURNAMENT DATES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO:

Tuesday and Wednesday, June 21 and 22, 2011

So students in the Troy School District will be able to participate

Please follow our website for updates, dates, and locations: www.michiganoptimists.org

To VOLUNTEER contact Sherry Regiani – (248) 877-8110 or sregiani@comcast.net



JOOI Michigan Service—Leadership—Teamwork—Fun! Samantha Fentress

samanthafentress1a@gmail.com or (313) 702-4427
Michigan District 2010-2011 JOOI Governor



Greetings fellow Optimists!

Happy 2011! I would also like to wish a Happy 100th Birthday to the Optimist International organization! It is such an honor to be able to verbalize that the Optimists have been avidly making a difference throughout the community to promote the well-being of others for 100 years.

On December 11, our JOOI District held its second Leadership Conference. It was very productive in that we focused on making ourselves more pronounced as clubs. Our main focus was Personal Growth and Involvement (PGI) and how to achieve high markings as clubs and as members. Our Junior Optimists work extraordinarily hard to devote themselves to their communities and their work should be acknowledged when possible. Other topics discussed included: service projects, fundraising, and reaching abroad to our fellow Uganda Optimists. Our 2010-2011 District JOOI Pin was also introduced at the Conference and we hope that everyone statewide will be as proud to wear one as we are. We also had the pleasure of chatting with the JOOI International President, Kayleigh White, who congratulated us on our Leadership Conference and encouraged our attendance at the JOOI International Convention in Baltimore.

During the First Quarter, my goal as JOOI Governor was to achieve more efficient communication ties with all JOOI clubs. So far a Facebook page for the Michigan JOOI group has been established as well as a JOOI site within the District's Website at jooi.michiganoptimists.org.

Our most recent District project was the Souper Bowl of Caring, a national youth-led hunger relief project with a goal of raising \$11 Million for local charities. To date, the Making A Difference JOOI Club of Southfield and Lathrup Village has reported that they

collected more than 50 canned goods and approximately \$150.00 in donations for one local charity, the South Oakland Shelter.

In the very near future, the annual Michigan District JOOI Convention is coming up and will be held April 16th at the Southfield Field Zone. I hold high hopes that we will have a great turn out of existing clubs and several new clubs that are underway:

- * Brighton High School JOOI Club - sponsors Brighton Optimist Club
- * Mount Clemens Junior High JOOI Club and Mount Clemens High Octagon Club – sponsors Clinton Township Optimist Club
- * Do Something Wonderful JOOI Club - sponsors Southfield-Lathrup Optimist with MAD JOOI Clubs
- * Dawson Middle School JOOI Club and Palmer Park Prep Academy JOOI Clubs - sponsors, Western International Optimist Club

The Michigan JOOI team has done an excellent job of maintaining an optimistic countenance during the first and second quarters of this year and I thank everyone for their dedication and commitment. Lastly I would like to pay a special gratitude to my supportive Michigan JOOI executive board: Taylor Garland, Kristin Jordan, Clare Luckey, Jennifer Nolan, Donovan Smith, Jennifer Lussenhop, Jodie Campbell, and Hannah Wooley and also my advisor Ms. Cheryl Thames. I have found this experience to be truly humbling as well as knowledgeable.

Thank You,
Samantha Fentress
JOOI Governor



Lexington Terminal—Lansing

Arrival: ON TIME

Engineer: Bob Schiller

migov0708@comcast.net or (248) 722-4407

Michigan District Optimist International Foundation Representative



At the risk of sounding bias, the *Michigan District Optimists ROCK!!* Oh yes, the music was thumping and the O-P-T-I-T-R-A-I-N groovin' as we pulled into the Lexington Terminal in Lansing, MI. The de-boarding was reminiscent of the '70's line dance craze. There was lovin' in the air, huggin' everywhere, and givin' with an open-hearted spirit of optimism!

The 2nd Quarter Conference marked the fifth month in a row that the Michigan District led the entire Optimist world in "unrestricted" donations. And well we should as OI's largest district. What has impressed all the most is Michigan also leads the nation in its statewide struggles. As Optimists, you continue to show that we can always do more. Your donations to the Optimist International Foundation exceed \$14,000, well on our way to our goal of \$36,000 by fiscal year end. Your donations also show the depth of your personal commitment to making a difference in your communities by "Bringing Out the Best in Kids!"

We are still looking for; a) "new" contributors to the Century Club or Women's Philanthropy Council (\$100 cumulative or one time donation), b) a Sponsorship (\$2,500 donation per year for five years) for the Boys District Oratorical Contest, and c) Renewal of 75% of our President Club members (\$250 cumulative or one time donation) to add to the length and strength of our OptiTrain. Now we "Focus on Bringing Out the Best In Kids" by taking aim

at our April/May challenge of two (2) new Christian D. Larson or Executive Club members. The good news is that we are already 50% of the way towards meeting our goal thanks to the generous donation of New Club Building Chair David Fries. David is the newest member of the CDL partners from Michigan and was specifically acknowledged as such at the Second Quarter Conference.

All contributions are important no matter how large or how small because every "dime" helps the OI Foundation to provide monies to support our International Programs. As you know, ten dimes equal one dollar and every dollar eventually equals five. Speaking of \$5.00, the Second Quarter Conference marked the drawing of the Second Quarter Michigan District Foundation Raffle. One of our fellow Optimists won an 8Gb iPod Touch for a mere five dollar (\$5.00) donation to the foundation. So now I can tell you about the Third Quarter MI District Raffle item. Thanks to the generosity of Past Governors Marc Katz, Don Brose, and Harry Margo, for a mere five dollar (\$5.00) donation, you can be in the drawing at the Third Quarter Conference for a *New NOOKcolor eReader!* Tickets are available online at www.michiganoptimists.org or through your Assistant Governors and Lieutenant Governors. Make your check payable to the "Optimist International Foundation".

Optimistic As Always!

Bob Schiller

Music Please! The O-P-T-I-T-R-A-I-N is now leaving the Lexington Terminal headed for the DoubleTree Terminal in Dearborn, MI. (Whistle sounds) ALL ABOARD THE OPTITRAIN !!!

Michigan District Policies

Chris Scott, Past Governor

christopherscott@comerica.com or (248) 370-0306

Michigan District Policies Chairperson

Proposals for changes or additions to Michigan District Optimist Policies will be accepted up to May 1, 2011. Proposals will be presented to the Executive Committee at the Third Quarter District Conference in Dearborn on May 13th, and finally to the delegates at the District Convention in Grand Rapids for final adoption.

Proposals should be e-mailed to: Chris Scott at christopherscott@comerica.com





Baltimore, Here We Come!

Karen Monville

Optimist806-bcnoc@yahoo.com

(989) 671-1287

Lou Moss

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(586) 566-7277

Fatima Plater

optimisticwoman@yahoo.com

(313) 393-4859

Michigan District Optimist International Convention Co-Ambassadors

93rd Annual Optimist International Convention

July 3—5, 2011
Baltimore Marriott
Waterfront in Baltimore,
Maryland

Purchase your Michigan
District Hospitality Pin
for just \$10

Now that spring has sprung, it's time to finalize your plans to attend the Optimist International Convention in Baltimore, Maryland, July 3-5, 2011. The Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel (convention headquarters), is literally steps from the water's edge in Harbor East, and the city's attractions are an easy walk or water taxi ride away. Baltimore is paradise for history buffs, who can relive America's past with a visit to Fort McHenry and learn about the origins of the "Star Spangled Banner"; animal lovers can enjoy the National Aquarium; for science nuts, there's the Maryland Science Center; and for the artsy crowd, there's the American Visionary Art Museum. Baltimore is also home to Johns Hopkins University, where Optimists' generous donations have been helping further research through the Childhood Cancer Campaign. To learn more about things to do in the Baltimore area, order your free personal copy of **Visit Baltimore--The Official Guide** at www.baltimore.org.



With all of the great things to see and do in the Baltimore area, you will definitely want to either arrive early or stay late (or both), because you won't want to miss all the Convention itself has to offer in the way of exceptional training and informative meetings.

The OI Convention helps new Club officers prepare for the little things during the year, such as how to prepare budgets, appoint committees, and file reports on time. Fundraising and new Club project ideas (remember, the OI Club Grant program for new Club projects!!) are overflowing at the Convention. District and Club officers training is invaluable to help with a successful year. Workshops are open to anyone and promise to educate you on many areas of interest within the organization.

In addition to all of the sightseeing and education, it's a terrific opportunity to network and instantly meet hundreds of friends who all share the same vision: to make this world a better place for children by "Bringing Out The Best In Kids".

The early registration deadline has been extended to May 1, 2011. As Optimist members of the Great Michigan District, we have set a goal to have 100 Michigan Optimists attend the Baltimore convention to represent 100 years of Optimism, from 1911-2011. Don't delay--register today to be part of the fun, excitement, and education at this year's convention!!

Support the Michigan District Hospitality Room

The Michigan District has a reputation for having a GREAT hospitality room, where Optimists from around the world come together to relax and share ideas. In order to provide a comfortable setting and refreshments, we will be selling "Hospitality Pins" for \$10 each to offset the cost. Governor Jan Oord designed the pin to reflect the Maryland crab AND a magnifying glass to remind us to FOCUS! Please purchase a pin at the next district meeting to help make your stay in Baltimore a great time to remember!

We are also planning on having a Michigan Specialty drink in our hospitality room in Baltimore. We will be having a contest amongst all of our Michigan District members to develop the drink. So, get creative and bring your entry to the third quarter District meeting in Dearborn, where we will have the tasting and select the winner.

If you have questions about the convention, the drink contest, or to purchase pins, please contact us at:

Karen Monville

(989) 671-1287, optimist806-bcnoc@yahoo.com

Lou Moss

(586) 566-7277, loumoss1@hotmail.com

Fatima Plater

(313) 393-4859, optimisticwoman@yahoo.com



Oratorical Contest—Facts & Issues

Danny Moss

optimistmandan@msn.com or (586) 566-7277

Michigan District Oratorical Contest Chairperson

It's coming up fast, and I hope your club has all its ducks in a row for the Oratorical Contest...Judges (non-Optimists), in place, time keeper lined up, location ready to go and all the schools in your area participating. Once they have completed your club contest, and turned in all the required documents, the winners should be ready to move on to the next step in the Scholarship quest. That would be the AREA Competitions. Below are the basic details of each Area's competition - at least as much as is available to this date.

AREA 1 (Northern Michigan from Saginaw to Traverse City to Alpena and back)

Contest Date – April 16th

Contest Location – Rogers City, Presque Isle Library

Contest Time - ??

Contact Person – Dana Monville 989-714-7620 (Cell) or 989-671-7287 (Home)

Cost to Club to send Contestants: \$25.00 (Each)

[ALL CHECKS to be made out to: Michigan District Optimists]

AREA 2 – (Western Michigan - Manistee County south to Ottawa County, East to Clinton County, NW)

Contest Date – March 26th

Contest Location – Muskegon, Baker College

Contest Time - 10:00 AM

Contact Person: J.P. Ryan 231-798-7741 (Cell)

Cost to Club sending Contestants: \$25.00 (Each)

[ALL CHECKS to be made out to: Michigan District Optimists]

AREA 3 (Southwestern Michigan, from Ingham County West, and Ingham County South to borders)

NO AREA CONTEST SCHEDULED – No ENTRIES

AREA 4 (Lenawee to Shiawassee, over to Genesee up to Huron County, and a line south along county borders back to Lenawee County – includes Lapeer, Oakland Washtenaw, Sanilac, Livingston)

Contest Date – April 2nd

Contest Location – Farmington Hills, Costick Center

Contest Time - 9:00 AM

Contact Person - Thomas A. Hafey 248-356-1458 (Home) 248-489-3434 (Bus)

Cost to Club to send Contestants: \$25.00 (Each)

[ALL CHECKS to be made out to: Michigan District Optimists]

AREA 5 – (St. Clair, Macomb, Wayne & Monroe Counties)

Contest Date – Either April 16 or May 7th (TBD)

Contest Location - TBD

Contest Time – 10:00 AM (TBD)

Contact Person – Nadine Holmes 313-805-1782

Cost to Clubs to send Contestants: \$25.00 (Each)

[ALL CHECKS to be made out to: Michigan District Optimists]

DISTRICT CONTEST – FINALS

Dearborn, MI at Doubletree Hotel on May 14th

Cost to Clubs to send contestants: \$ 50.00 (each) **(This price includes lunch for one contestant and one adult)**



We're Moving in a Positive Direction...
A Focus on Membership, New Club Building
and College Clubs

"Net is NOT this Year!"

Michelle Kauffold

newmichelle@att.net or (313) 510-6300

Michigan District Membership Chairperson



GROWTH- all year it is about positive growth - our slogan for the year is "Net' it is NOT!" Huh??? OI President Danny Rogers has designated the year as all about adding to your member roster.

20% (10 new members) to its roster. The club has a very successful NOW party and gains 12 new members. Are they in line for Honor Club status? YES!!! You only "FOCUS" on the positive, don't worry about members you have lost...they added over 20%, so now they are on their way to Honor Club or Distinguished Club status.

Motivating Membership Incentives available:

- Clubs win a treat with Governor Jan - the club bringing in the most members each quarter will be visited by the Governor.
Michigan Second Quarter Plus New Optimists Welcome/New Member Contest - Your Club will be entered into a drawing for each new member sponsored and for holding New Optimist Welcome meeting (NOW).
Individual members can earn VERY COOL Michigan Growth pins (One, Two, Three Member and our Little Boy)
OI has an incentive program that rewards members for adding 3 or more Friend of Optimists (FOO) - free processing fees and no OI dues for the remainder of the this and all of next year for a traditional member.

Rewards are here to be had- JUST ASK, and GET YOURSELF A NEW MEMBER or FOO!

Let's Go Racing!

Dave Fries

david.fries@us.army.mil or (313) 971-5458

Michigan District New Club Building Chairperson



We're at the 2010 - 2011 Daytona Raceway Ladies and Gentleman; 250 laps completed on this exciting 500 lap race.

So far the first car S.T.A.N.D "Metro Detroit" driven by Gov Jan and Past Gov Fatima has finished the race. The rest of the field is still in the race. Lawrence Tech, Oxford, Grand Haven, Oakland Community College, Baldwin, Macomb, Battle Creek, Alpena, Ann Arbor, and Detroit are fighting for position.

I enjoyed the opportunity to meet and greet all of you in Lansing. What an exciting "Club Growth " table top we had. Thank You Governor Jan and the Leadership Team!

As you know public and private funding is drying up! What an opportunity to start an Optimist Club; providing a fresh funding stream to an organization dedicated to helping youth. If you think about it, these organizations are almost optimist clubs. Who would not be interested in OI knowing that we can help them survive.

You can do it! We can help!

All I am asking is that you identify a "Need" in your community. We will support you with the rest. A verified community "Need" usually results in a new club in a short period of time.

Remember the 4 Steps? They tell you what to do?

Needs Assessment: As I say in the office: "What about my needs" A way to accurately identify and understand the needs within the community in order to build a strong Optimist Club.

Recruitment: "Why? Because it's all about the KIDS!" The process of connecting and recruiting with community-minded individuals to an Optimist Club for the purpose of "Bringing out the Best in Kids!"

Meetings: "It should be fun but serious too!" The process of coming together as an assembly for a common purpose during the formation of a Club.

Follow up: "Talking feedback" "Follow-up and Follow through" The ongoing process, led by the District, to ensure that each new Club becomes a strong, viable asset with effective leadership that provides excellent service to the community.

(continued on Page 13)



(continued from page 12)

An Opportunity to Build a College Club—You Never Know When or Where You'll Find It!!

Rocco Romano

roccor712@yahoo.com or (248) 435-8173

Michigan District College Club Chairperson

As College Club Chair, I have been looking for opportunities to connect with our Michigan College Clubs and build new College Clubs. We currently have three College Clubs in the Michigan District—OCC Auburn Hills, U of M Go Blue, and WSU Warriors-Detroit. I am extending an offer to these clubs to meet with them and share ideas about helping their club stay healthy.

Building a College Club is a great way to connect with the young adults in your community (also, future members of your club)! Being a member of the club will help the students strengthen their resumes by adding community service and leadership to it. Once you build a College Club you can partner with them on a service activity and consequently add lots of fun and enthusiasm to the event. I have personally been working with the Southfield Lathrup Club, lead by Cheryl Thames, to build a club at Lawrence Technological University (LTU).

It is a great service and experience to build a College Club, but you ask—How, When, and Where?

The **How** is not a problem—we have access to all of the resources you will need, just contact me or check on the OI website, www.optimist.org.

Then **When** is a very easy question to answer—no time like the present! Let's get started!

The **Where?** You know we have a Community College, College or University in most of our communities. Just start asking around and let the word out that you would like to build a College Club.

Here is a little story that shows just how quickly the ball can get rolling. So, I come to our Second Quarter Conference in Lansing and the first person I meet is Governor Jan and she whispers to me, "See Karen and Dana Monville, they have an opportunity to start a club at Delta College". Turns out they have a niece who is an instructor at Delta College and she said her students are not focused and could sure use a structured activity outside of classes. She asked her Aunt Karen (Auntie K, they call her), "Do you think there is a chance I could start and Optimist Club at Delta?"...The Beginning!

Remember, that building a College Club counts as an Adult Optimist Club and will count toward your club earning Distinguished status!



Cultural Excitement in Dearborn

Connie Bloom

connieb46@aol.com or (989) 246-0116

Michigan District Spouse and Youth Activities Chairperson

I am very excited about our planned activity for the Third Quarter Conference in Dearborn. As most of you know that meeting is always the District Oratorical Contest. In the past, many of our spouse activity attendees liked to be at the luncheon and then attend the Oratorical Contest. It is an inspiring event. So, this year I thought I would bring an activity to us that will, hopefully, interest all of you. We will have a member and Charter President of the Oak Park and Royal Oak Township Optimist Club, Sudha Sekhar, provide us with entertainment from the Hindu Temple Rhythm Dancers. She will also give us a history of Hinduism and answer any questions we may have. The program will run from 10:00 a.m. until about 11:30 a.m.

You will need to register for the Spouse Activity and the Optimist luncheon. The activity is free, however, the lunch is \$20 before May 9th and \$25 after May 10th. Of course, you may register for the activity and not the luncheon, if you wish to eat elsewhere.

If you prefer to leave the hotel, we will be very close to the Fairlane Mall, Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village.

I look forward to seeing a lot of you at the Third Quarter Conference in Dearborn and at the Fourth Quarter Convention in Grand Rapids, where we will have some wonderful activities planned.

Most recently we have not had any children attending our meetings. Youth activities will be arranged if we know in advance there will be kids there. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE BRINGING YOUR CHILDREN.** I can be reached at connieb46@aol.com or (989) 246-0116.



Optimists In Action

Shirley Williams

dsdwms@aol.com or (313) 534-8594



If you read your Optimists In Action article for the First Quarter you were possibly as impressed as I was; the only thing I could say when I saw all the wonderful things that the clubs are doing was WOW! When I received all the reports it reminded me of why we are so relevant to the community and why I am proud to be called an Optimist.

The momentum to "Focus On Bringing Out The Best In Kids" for this quarter is not slowing down one bit; you will be just as impressed with the accomplishments of Second Quarter. Prepare to be WOWED again! The clubs have been very busy, extremely productive and amazingly creative with their community outreach activities. Our community involvement and commitment to the youth has been without a doubt instrumental in increasing our name recognition, community awareness and exposure for membership prospects.

Big Kudos to all who have chosen the path that leads to "Focus on Bringing out the Best in Kids"; continue the great work! The collective activity and accomplishments of our clubs was quite vast; the clubs highlighted in this article for this quarter are just a sample of the District's activity. We are leaving a legacy for the youth we touch.

★ **The Lakes Area Optimist Club- (Cashing In On Optimism)**
 ★ The club made a \$3,000 donation to 14 Walled Lake Elementary schools for each school's physical education and recess programs. The donations averaged \$250 per school and were raised through the club's annual Run with Attitude 5k and 1 Mile run, which takes place each September in Commerce Township.

★ **Metro Riverfront Optimist Club- (Food, JOOI)**
 ★ The community outreach partnership they have fostered with the Loving Eagles JOOI Club demonstrates that our compassion, time and optimism certainly can make a difference in the community. The joint efforts of these clubs, together with S.E.A.S.O.N.S. Ministry of Christian Fellowship of Love Baptist Church, enabled them to feed over 100 hungry adults and children at the Tsunami Center in the Cass Corridor of Detroit. The opportunity to partner with our youth enables us to create a legacy, one that passes on a life lesson that teaches helping others is really about bringing out the best in our individual lives.

★ **Hartland Optimist Club- (Public Recognition and Some Cash)**
 ★ *Congratulations!* To the Hartland Optimist Club on receiving a distinguished community service award from the Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce. Each year, the Hartland Area Chamber of Commerce strives to donate and support various local charities. The recipients for 2010 were honored during the chamber's holiday luncheon held on December 9th at the Waldenwood's Resort and Conference Center.

★ **The Breakfast Club Of Kalamazoo- (BIG KUDOS!)**
 ★ Governor Jan Oord had to put on her Governor's hat when she paid a visit to the BOCK club meeting on February 17th to congratulate the Club and present them with the coveted "little boy" pin. For the First Quarter their club has earned the esteemed title of *"Club with the most growth in membership" in the entire Michigan District.* Keep up the good work!

★ **Loving Community- (Arts and Optimism)**
 ★ One of the planned quarterly fundraisers for this club was a Theatre Party held at the Detroit Repertory Theatre . The fundraiser helped to support the local business, talent and their youth projects. Way to go! Loving the community at large.

★ **Birmingham Optimist- (Food For Thought)**
 ★ The club will be serving up some hotcakes at the breakfast to be held at Grove and Seaholm High Schools on March 8, 2011.

★ **Bay City Noon- (Singing for the Unsung)**
 ★ The club was recognized by MLive.com/Everything Michigan for recognizing 18 students at their annual Appreciation Luncheon. The students were honored for making a positive impact in their school and the community.

★ **Central Macomb- (Smile Makers)**
 ★ The club held its annual Christmas Auction and raised over \$1,000.00. The funds were donated to the Detroit ConKerr Cancer Chapter, which makes and distributes colorful handmade pillow cases to brighten the lives of children in the hospitals. The Detroit ConKerr Cancer Chapter has distributed 10,000 pillow cases since December 2007.

★ **Southfield Lathrup- (Fun, Raffles, Games and Great Food!)**
 ★ The Club is kicking off its scholarship fundraiser with a St. Patrick's Day event on Thursday, March 17th. Proceeds will go to fund the Robert and Susanne DiGiulio Memorial Scholarship, Making a Difference JOOI Club.

Reminder—please forward your club bulletins and special club announcements to: **Shirley Williams, 20190 Cooley, Detroit MI, 48219** or email: dsdwms@aol.com



Register Today For The Michigan Optimists 2010-2011 Third Quarter Conference Doubletree Hotel - Dearborn 5801 Southfield Expressway, Detroit MI 48228



Friday, May 13, 2011

Registration (5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
Executive Board Meeting (7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.)
Hospitality Room (7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.)
General Business Meeting & Breakout Sessions;
District Oratorical Contest

Saturday, May 14, 2011

*****GENERAL SESSION STARTS PROMPTLY AT 8:45 A.M.*****

Please Use One Form Per Optimist Member!

Name: _____

Name for Badge: _____

Phone: () _____

Zone: _____

Club Name: _____

2010-2011 Office: _____

First Timer? _____ Yes _____ No

Any Special Meal Needs: _____

(If not specified, the standard menu selection will be served)

If attending, Spouse/Guest Name: _____

If attending, child's name(s) and age(s): _____

Tentative Agenda for Saturday, May 14, 2011

7:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Registration
8:45 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.	General Session
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Lunchtime Program
	- OI Foundation Raffle and Update
	- District Essay Contest Winner

2:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.



Please Check Which Activities You will Attend:

- Early Registration:** _____ @ \$35 = _____
Must be faxed or postmarked before April 29, 2011.
Registration includes coffee, lunch and meeting room charges.
- Late Registration:** _____ @ \$45 = _____
Faxed or postmarked after April 30, 2011.
Lunch **NOT** guaranteed if not registered by May 9th.
- Past Governors' Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- Assistant Governors' and Lieutenant Governors' Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- First Timer's Continental Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- Spouse's and Guest's Activity:** _____ @ Free = _____
Meet in hotel lobby at 10 AM. Enjoy entertainment from the Hindu Temple Rhythm Dancers and learn history of Hinduism.
- Spouse's and Guest's Lunch:** _____ @ \$20 = _____
12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Join the Optimist family for lunch at the hotel. *Register early to guarantee seating and food. Early registration deadline for this meal only is May 9th.*
- Spouse's and Guest's Lunch Late Registration:** _____ @ \$25 = _____
Faxed or postmarked after May 9, 2011. This is for the meal only.

******THERE WILL NOT BE A SATURDAY EVENING DINNER AT THIS CONFERENCE******

Make Your Hotel Reservations Today!!
(Please mention that you are with the MI District Optimists)

Doubletree Hotel – Dearborn
5801 Southfield Expressway
Detroit, MI 48228
Telephone: (800) 222-8733 or (313) 336-3340

Reservation DEADLINE: April 29, 2011

Room Rate: \$89.00 (plus state and local taxes)

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

Send or Fax Registration to:
Jeanna Clifford, Secretary-Treasurer
7460 Atherton Road
Davison, Michigan 48423

Cell Phone: (810) 287-2530 Fax Number: (810) 309-1480

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.

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

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Optimist International Mission Statement:

"By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids."



Michigan District
Optimist International

The Optimist Creed

Next **OptiViews** Deadline June 4, 2011

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

Websites

Michigan District
www.michiganoptimists.org

Optimist International
www.optimist.org

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Nicole M. Ingersoll
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Linda Ingersoll
Co-Editor

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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