



OptiViews

Michigan District
Optimist International

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FOCUSing on the Positive

Janet Oord

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Michigan District 2010-2011 Governor



What's Inside

Hello Michigan Optimists!

I heard a great story the other day that told of a man and his quest to seek help from others. While some were willing to help him, most walked by him without offering assistance. When he changed his words, based on suggestions from a child, hardly anyone walked by without offering a helping hand. Isn't it often said, "Out of the mouths of babes..." It is so true that how we present our thoughts to others makes all the difference in the response we receive. If we "Focus" on a positive, enthusiastic approach, there is no doubt it will result in a positive outcome. I started thinking about this story in comparison to how one might hear the following:

"People are just too busy."

"I can't find anyone to help or join my club!"

"The same few are doing everything!"

Have you ever heard statements similar to this? Think of how many more Optimistic helping hands would reach out to join us if they heard something like:

"Being an Optimist has changed my life!"

"It is truly an honor to be a member of my Optimist club!"

"Our Optimist Club mentored youth at our local school this year, it was incredible!"

"While I know the youth appreciated it, I think I walked away with more than they did!"

As your Governor, I have heard many such inspiring stories about the impact that Optimist Clubs and you, as members, have had on lives. The wonderful activities and service you provide for

children have touched me deeply. This is a huge reward that I have received for having the opportunity to visit your clubs and witness your activities.

Unfortunately, we too often keep our great stories a secret. Drop your modesty my fellow Optimists! Start bragging and share the joy and value of being an Optimist Club member! I believe, as Optimists, we are members of the finest service organization in the world! Let's start telling everyone our stories and see what happens. Do you think people might begin asking for an application to join your club or support it by becoming a Friend of Optimists? I do!

A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to attend the Ludington Optimist Club's Founders Day Celebration - 59 years of service to their community! It was a great luncheon filled with fellowship and wonderful stories about the many accomplishments of the Ludington Optimists. There were two founding members, Hal Madden and Warren Abrahamson, in attendance - radiating Optimism as they have for 59 years! I would like to share a quote from Warren that I loved!

"The best time to become an Optimist was yesterday....The second best time is Now!"



Warren and Hal - Ludington Optimist Club Charter members for 59 years!

In August we will "Celebrate Optimism" in Grand Rapids at the beautiful Amway Grand Plaza Hotel.

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It is a fabulous hotel and is located right in the heart of Grand Rapids. We will have a number of special guests, among them: Story Tellers Extraordinaire - Fran and Von Washington and Optimist International President Danny and First Lady Jill Rodgers. During the day on Saturday we will have loads of opportunities to learn, celebrate and share with one another. At our formal evening banquet we will celebrate our achievements and install our incoming District Officers. The Sammy Gould band will be there to entertain us and get us up on the dance floor. Don't miss out, register now!

If you have an idea, question or concern you would like to discuss, do not hesitate to contact me. Remember that you have many

outstanding Optimist leaders in Michigan with a wealth of knowledge available to help. Please contact one of our Chairs, your Lieutenant Governor or Assistant Governor if you need assistance. I hope to see you in Grand Rapids for our Michigan Optimist Convention!

Yours in Optimism,

Jan

Janet Oord, 2010-2011 Governor
Michigan District Optimist International

Heading Into the Home Stretch for 2010-2011 Optimist Year!

Jeanna Clifford

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

We are on the final home stretch of the Optimist 2010-2011 year. Thank you to all the clubs who have submitted their Club Officer Elect Report (COER) by the May 20, 2011 deadline! We had 59 clubs turn in their reports with only 39 more to go. Even though the deadline has passed, we still need every club to still submit this report.

A huge thank you to the Clubs who have consistently paid their Michigan District dues on time. These funds keep our District

programs and administration running, including the publishing of our *OptiViews*, for example. There are clubs who are currently past due on their MI District Dues. Unpaid Club dues puts stress on the entire District; please catch up with your dues payments. If you have questions about how much your club owes at this time or need to set up a payment schedule, do not hesitate to contact me.

The Fourth Quarter dues billing will be mailed out the 1st week in July. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

**WELCOME OUR NEWEST CLUB TO THE
MICHIGAN DISTRICT FAMILY**

**Mount Clemens Optimist Club
chartered June 16, 2011**



Sponsoring Optimist Clubs are Central Macomb and Clinton Township Area. Builders of Excellence include Theresa Jarratt, Lou Moss, David Fries, and Elaine Lyon.



Michigan District Optimists Find New Members Across the State

Welcome Our Newest Members Added 03/01/11—06/30/11



Rogers City—Luncheon

Marcy Starnes
Bridget Lalonde
Renee Szymanski

Bay City—Noon

Sandy Dabrowski
Kylee Strieter
Rhonda Bovin

Traverse City

Catherine Allchin
Jordan Byron

Shelby

Zachary Miller
Cody Pochyla

Saginaw

Carl Roggow

West Branch

Meredith Schleicher
Brenda Simmons

Dan Cwayna

Ludington

James Mcinnis

Jackson

Jackie Barnes

Dowagiac

Jeremy Truitt

Niles

Liz Szalay

Muskegon—Greater

Mary Wildfong

Flint—West

Christine Haines
Mark Zyber

Metro S.T.A.N.D.—Detroit

Jesse Jackson
Diane Joslin-Gould

Muskegon Heights

Audrey Beckman
Chanetta Kirkman
Kristi Sargent
Jennifer Halverson

Willie Minor

Richard Wright

Battle Creek

Mishelle Myers

Randy Thom

Deannea Ylinen

Battle Creek—Harper Creek

Ron Mrozinski
Natasha Stanton

Huron Valley

Lisa Austin

Pamela Barckholtz

Farmington Hills—Breakfast

Douglas Rossman

Greg Cowley

Becky Krupa

Donald McCann

Bloomfield Hills

Mark Barrett

Paul Hindelang

Jeff Hurlbert

John King

Pontiac

Dyann Hayes

Rochester Area

Sara Whedon

Ann Arbor—Breakfast

Bryon Kelley
William Hampton
Diana Kelley
Lloyd Powell

Lake Orion Area

Trish Blascak
Mike Weaver
Kristin Calvert
Scott Henman

Clarkston Area

Nanci Anderson-Bereznicki

Sherri Deckard

Kalamazoo—Breakfast

John Kinch

Eric Wild

Marc Katz

Lynn Kinch

Mason

Daniel Drew

Kenneth Thompson

Grand Blanc

Chris Foster

Brighton

Michael Aubert

Erik Kallio

Jim Lasota

Christine Devllin

Carol Dobrowski

Carol Teahan

Larry Teahan

Waterford Twp—Breakfast

Martha Lawrence

Jon Pagano

Joan Sutherland

Keego Harbor

Chevelle Bedra

John Mellerowicz

Lakes Area

Kenneth Gutman
Bryan Finnerty

Fenton Area

Shaun Hamilton
Eric Rettenmund
Orpha Verhelle
Blake Boan

Southfield—Lathrup

Pamela Bratschi

Deborah Harmse

Marie Stiegel

Birmingham

Michael Stewart

Clawson—Troy

Patricia Pell

West Bloomfield

Tesfaye Kebede

Wilson Kebede

Nancy Morganroth

Charrhonda Moye

Jules Haapala

Jill Lutz

Jonathan Warshay

William Woodruff

Troy

Jennifer Plummer

21st Century—Detroit

Gwendolyn Andrews

Xzun Bellefant

Ralph King

Melody Myers

Yvette Pinchem-Stewart

Rita Ryan

Detroit—Northwest

Donald Parker

Wayne Waller

Brian Jones

Sheryl Pryor

WSU Warriors—Detroit

Charles Green

Fellowship Chapel—Detroit

Jesse Patton

Detroit—Southeastern

John Murphy

Central—Detroit

Pretrena Bee

Courtney Minion

Khalid Mohammed

Norma Stone

Clinton Township Area

David Fries

Anthony Wickersham

Central Macomb

Anthony Wickersham

Dearborn

Kelle Sisung

Douglas Topolski

Northville

Gregory Pelc

Philip Dow

Bryan Riegner

Detroit—Faith, Hope, & Love

Leah Rodgers

Suzanne Stanfield

Grosse Pointe—Lakeshore

Karen Besimer

Susan Browne

Allen Browne

Martha Casey

Keith Rhodes

Christopher Thomas



(Charter members of Mount Clemens Optimist Club listed on Page 4)



(Continued from Page 3)

<u>Mount Clemens</u>	Laura Cutting	Debbie Heuchert	Colette Kuhl	Gregory Sisoy
Michael Bernier	Phil Easter	Jim Hill	Jerry Kuhl	George Steeh
Kathy Best	Jackie Ellis	Pat Hill	Keith Lesperance	Dave Tuscany
Pamela Blibrew	Dave Fries	Sara Jarratt	Kevin Marvin	Michelle Weiss
Charles Brown	Greg Gagnon	Carl Jarratt	Stephen Saph	Crystal White
Gerrie Brown	Pamela Hall	Theresa Jarratt	Carolee Schmid	
Anita Ches	Christine Haun	Diane Kubik	Todd Seeburger	



to Our New Member Sponsors

Success During 03/01/11—6/30/11

<u>Rogers City</u>	<u>Muskegon Heights</u>	<u>Lake Orion Area</u>	<u>Southfield—Lathrup</u>	<u>Central—Macomb</u>
Robert Starnes	Ron Jenkins	Kelly Weaver	Jeff Mueller	Cindie Szarek
Jennifer Warwick	Terry Nash	Katherine Baumann	Ollie Colvard	<u>Dearborn</u>
Joe Brewbaker	Edward Causey	<u>Clarkston Area</u>	<u>Birmingham</u>	Steve Quinlan
<u>Bay City—Noon</u>	<u>Battle Creek</u>	Jeffrey Reed	Edgar Pugh	Gregg Allgeier
Joellen Strieter	Robert Zuhl	Jane Cocciolone	<u>Clawson Troy</u>	<u>Central—Detroit</u>
<u>Traverse City</u>	Gary Gensch	<u>Kalamazoo—Breakfast</u>	Rocco Romano	Robert Bee
Lawrence Vincler	<u>Huron Valley</u>	Nancy Baker	<u>West Bloomfield</u>	Donald Riggins
Jay Feldman	Richard Russell	Deb Wild	Gerald Kosmensky	Norvel Grady
<u>Shelby</u>	<u>Farmington Hills—Breakfast</u>	Jan Oord	Brian Flaggs	Alice Bee
Eric Fox	Bruce Fowler	John Kinch	Alan LaDuke	<u>Northville</u>
Robert Pochyla	Dennis Finnerty	<u>Mason</u>	Barbara Pearl	Karen Watkins
<u>Saginaw</u>	<u>Bloomfield Hills</u>	Jerry Klinger	Howard Rosenberg	Lori Dow
Harvey Haubenstricker	Robert Dempster	David Cornwell	<u>Keego Harbor</u>	Jennifer Weiler
<u>West Branch</u>	Karen Miller	<u>Grand Blanc</u>	Matthew Evans	<u>Detroit—Faith, Hope, & Love</u>
Kelly Schindler	Michael Kucera	Cathy Lane	Bill Bertakis	Shirley Tolliver
Edmund Koliba	<u>Pontiac</u>	<u>Brighton</u>	<u>Lakes Area</u>	<u>Huron Valley</u>
David Marston	Jo Ann Legge	Patricia Bown	Greg Janicki	Linda Erlich
<u>Ludington</u>	<u>Battle Creek—Harper Creek</u>	Dennis Kallio	<u>Metro S.T.A.N.D.—Detroit</u>	<u>Grosse Pointe—Lakeshore</u>
Eugene Jorissen	Kandra Bennett	Robert Smith	Jan Oord	Kimberly Woloszyk
<u>Jackson</u>	Duncan Bailey	Eunice Kallio	<u>Detroit—Northwest</u>	Dave Fries
Thomas Mathes	<u>Ann Arbor—Breakfast</u>	<u>Waterford Twp—Breakfast</u>	Patrick Gordon	Krys Schroeder
<u>Dowagiac</u>	Jerry Kelley	Heather Halls	Alexandria Williams	Jeff Graham
David Strlekar	Sandy Elden	Darwin Johnson	Linda Brooks	Donald Beardsley
<u>Niles</u>	<u>Fenton Area</u>	<u>WSU Warriors—Detroit</u>	George Adams	
Diane Bass	Jeffrey Phillips	Fatima Plater	<u>Clinton Township Area</u>	
<u>Muskegon—Greater</u>	Vera Hogan	<u>Detroit—Southeastern</u>	Theresa Jarratt	
Jone Benedict	Susan Phillips	Francine Tatum	Carl Durlock	



Racing to the Finish Line

Ray Finocchio
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Michigan District 2010-2011 Governor-Elect

Dear Fellow Michigan District Optimists,

Hard to believe it, but here we are, starting the Fourth Quarter of Governor Jan's FOCUS Optimist year!! What a wonderful year it has been!! Thanks to Governor Jan's leadership and strong leadership team, we've enjoyed great District meetings with great attendance and wonderful programs where we all learned and shared best practices among the Members of this great District.

My focus over the past several months has been on assembling my leadership team, goals and strategies for the 2011 – 2012 Optimist year. My sincere thanks to those of you coming forward to assume leadership positions for the upcoming Optimist year. For those of you who have not yet assumed a leadership position, there is still time. We still have several open positions, especially on the growth committees. So for those of you interested in a District level position, please contact me as soon as possible.

I would also like to announce that our 2011 – 2012 leadership training/orientation sessions have been scheduled as follows:

Club Presidents, Sec/Treas

August 6, 2011
Weber's Inn/Ann Arbor

Lt/Asst Govs, Committee Chairs

August 12 – 13, 2011
Lexington Inn/Lansing

Please save these dates on your calendars; these sessions are extremely important to facilitate the implementation of next year's strategy. Please try to attend if at all possible. There will be more information coming to you by mail.

This year's District Convention at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids promises to be one of the best ever!! I hope to meet and greet many of you in attendance, as we celebrate the great accomplishments of our FOCUS year. To top it all off, we'll conduct the officer installation for 2011 – 2012 at our Saturday evening dinner. OI President Danny Rodgers and First Lady Jill will be with us for the weekend, so this promises to be an exciting, fun-filled time - - don't miss it!



Oh! The "Thinks" You Can Think!

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

"Think left and think right and think low and think high. Oh, the thinks you can think up if only you try!" — Dr. Seuss

As a great admirer of Dr. Seuss, I *whole-heartedly* agree with the above statement, knowing full well that MI District Optimists aim for the highest they can reach!

Focused on the upmost for our highest, MI District Committees strive to create, to execute and to complete their tasks 'at hand'. Many thanks to multiple District Committees who have worked dedicatedly this year to meet their goals and to make all things possible to "bring out the Best in Kids".

As we finish up the 2010—2011 Optimist year, let's take another look at what we can do to support the District, to support our Clubs and to complete the race we have set out to run. With only a few months to go, let's work to get to the finish line and help Governor Jan reach her 'focus' goals for the year!

Expo tables are available for ALL Committee Chairs to exhibit for Fourth Quarter/MI Convention in Grand Rapids. *Space is limited*: please let me know if you are interested in securing a table.

See you in Grand Rapids as we celebrate yet another outstanding year of Optimist work!



Leadership Equations. . .

Trained Club LEADERS + Trained Club MEMBERS = HEALTHY Clubs
HEALTHY Clubs = More Youth Served

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Harry Margo

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Michigan District Leadership Development Team

The first three quarters of the 2010—2011 Optimist year featured the Parallel District Conference in Niagara Falls, the Super Zone Meetings, the Second Quarter District Meeting in Lansing, the Third Quarter District Meeting in Dearborn and the International Convention in Baltimore where many of you invested time in your leadership training.

The beautiful Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids is the site of the 2010—2011 District Convention from August 26—28, 2011. Rooms at this four-star hotel are available to Optimists this weekend for \$99! The fee for self-parking is being waived which provides a tremendous savings to our members. The evening of August 26 kicks off with the District Executive Committee Meeting which is open to all who wish to attend. The District Hospitality Room will be open Friday evening, and this is a wonderful time to meet and network with fellow Optimists.

The next morning, right across the street from the Amway Grand at the equally stunning JW Marriott, training will commence, including breakout sessions to help you wrap-up the 2010—2011 year and

prepare for the 2011—2012 Optimist year. During the General Session, storytellers Fran and Von Washington will be featured presenters. Later that day we will vote on our next Governor-Elect and hear suggested changes to the Michigan District Policies. Saturday evening will be the Governor's Ball and will include the installation of Governor-Elect Ray and his 2011—2012 leadership team. Dress for the event is black-tie optional.



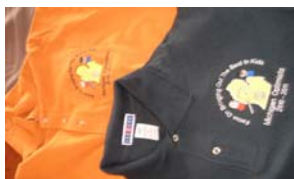
Optimist International President Danny Rodgers and First Lady Jill Rodgers will be attending the District Convention as our special guests. President Danny is an inspiring and motivating speaker and will help prepare us for a final push to make this 2010—2011 Optimist year the best that it can be. See you all in Grand Rapids. The Registration Form is available on Page 15.

Michigan District and Optimist International Supplies Available at the District Convention in Grand Rapids

Linda Brooks will have a supply table in the EXPO area loaded with great Optimist merchandise for you to purchase. We have a few of the shirts below left, but you can order one, to assure that you get the shirt you want in your size. Please e-mail her the shirt, color and size you would like to order by August 1 at lybb_1999@yahoo.com. You will be able to pick your shirt up at our Fourth Quarter Convention in Grand Rapids.



Jerzee Hoodie in Brown (runs small)
S, M, L, XL \$20



Golf Shirt in Yam/Texas Orange or Black (runs big)
S, M, L, XL - \$18, 2XL or 3XL - \$20



Boxy Crew in Yam/Texas Orange or Smoke (runs big)
S, M, L, XL - \$24



Proposed Policy Changes Submitted by the District Finance Committee

The following proposals for additions and changes to Michigan District Policies were presented at the Third Quarter District Meeting in Dearborn for consideration by the membership. At the District Convention in Grand Rapids, the measures will be presented for a vote, and if approved will be written into District policies effective October 1, 2011. Club officers should discuss these policies with their club membership in preparation for a vote according to the wishes of the club at the District Convention. Please review the proposed policy changes below and feel free to contact **Chris Scott** at christopherscott@comerica.com if you have any questions or need some clarification.

Policy C3 – Reimbursement of Expenses

The purpose of amending this policy is to allow the outgoing administration to close the books as expeditiously as possible, and to avoid placing additional financial burden on the incoming administration with unexpected expenses. The final two sentences of the policy shall be amended as follows:

Present Wording

All requests for expenses reimbursement shall be submitted to the governor for approval, within budgetary guidelines, prior to October 20 of the following administrative year, and must be submitted on a district voucher, failure to comply with the above will cause disapproval of said request for reimbursement.

Proposed Wording

All requests for *expense* reimbursement shall be submitted *on a district voucher* to the governor for approval, within budgetary guidelines, ***not later than September 30***. Failure to comply with the above will cause disapproval of said request for reimbursement.

Policy C11 – International Convention Hospitality Room

The purpose of amending this policy is to clarify the guidelines for the source and use of funds to support the convention hospitality room.

Present Wording

The district administration may maintain a district headquarters or hospitality room at the International Convention, the rental of which, only, shall be budgeted and chargeable to account 560 of the standard district chart of accounts.

Proposed Wording

The district administration may maintain a district headquarters or hospitality room at the International Convention. ***The room rental and reasonable expenses for food and refreshments shall be budgeted and chargeable to account 560 of the standard district chart of accounts, with expenditures not to exceed amounts collected specifically for that purpose, and credited to account 180A, International Convention Hospitality.***



Historical Visit to Grand Rapids

Connie Bloom

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

Spouse and Youth Activities Chairperson



I am looking forward to the Michigan District Convention in Grand Rapids and have tried to plan something that all will enjoy. So, here it goes. We will be venturing out, either by van or on foot, to the Grand Rapids Museum. While there we will see exhibits about the history of the city and even ride a 1928 Carousell. We will also visit the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. This will give us a view of American history as it was made by the 38th President of the United States.

You will need to register for the Spouse Activity. At the time of the printing of the registration I did not have the costs of the museums so I estimated that \$10.00 would cover the admissions. Unfortunately, I was wrong! So, you can register and pay your \$10.00 and

then on Saturday I will collect either \$7.00 or \$3.00 (depending on your age). Each museum has a senior rate for age 62 and above. Lunch will be Dutch treat at a restaurant near the hotel and museums.

I look forward to seeing lots of you at the Fourth Quarter Convention in Grand Rapids. We will be hosting the First Lady of Optimist International, Jill Rodgers. Let's make sure we have a large group to show her a good time. 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.**



ATTENTION MICHIGAN DISTRICT GOLFERS

The Michigan District Convention will be in Grand Rapids Michigan from Aug. 26-28 at the Amway Grand Plaza. We are blessed in Grand Rapids with several golf courses to choose from for our group to play before the Convention starts on Friday afternoon.

Harry Margo made arrangements with an excellent golf course called Thousand Oaks Golf Course, it is just off Beltline Avenue or Broadmore on 5 Mile Road. It is on the north east side of Grand Rapids, about 10 Minutes from the hotel. The cost is around \$45 for Cart and Golf. You can check out the course information at www.thousandoaksgolf.com. Please e-mail **Harry Margo** (ceioffice3268@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to participate.

Addressing the Problems of the World— Through the Eyes of Our Children

Danny Moss

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

Michigan District Oratorical Contest Chairperson

When children are asked to fix the most important issues in the world, it is surprising how many problems they identify. That is exactly what these kids were asked to do for the Oratorical Contest this year. The topic, "If I were the Leader of the free world, the first issue I would address would be..." turned out to be one of the more intriguing topics of the last few years.

We had topics addressed from "Special days and deals for little kids" to "Human Trafficking". Topics as diverse as "How others are treated" to "Being a Candidate for President" so they can really address the issues in a meaningful way.

It was a good year, and the winners came from some surprising corners of our District. Our girl winner came from the far western part of the District, and our boy winner came from the eastern edge of the District. We had contestants from the city of Detroit, and some who came all the way from Alpena and Rogers City to compete in the District contest. So we can put this one in the books as being a successful year.

Our Regional Winners are as follows:

Area 1 Regional winners:

Girl Winner – Victoria Bullock, Rogers City Club

Boy winner – Michael Killewald, Alpena Club

Area 4 Regional winners:

Girl Winner – Paulina Devlin, Brighton Club

Boy winner – Siva Koduvayur, Auburn Hills Morning

Area 5 Regional winners:

Girl Winner – Taylor Butler, Detroit Northwest

Boy winner – Benjamin Orjada, Shelby Township Area

Representing Area 2:

Girl Winner – Kaitlyn Rabach, Mona Shores—Muskegon

Boy winner – William Reck, Mona Shores—Muskegon

Finally, the District Winners and each a winner of a \$2,500.00 College Scholarship:

District Girl Winner - **Kaitlyn Rabach** of Muskegon; sponsored by the Mona Shores-Muskegon Optimist Club.

District Boy Winner – **Benjamin Orjada** of Sterling Heights; sponsored by the Shelby Township Area Optimist Club

Congratulations to all our competitors from the club level right on through the District. They were all winners just for putting themselves out there.





District Essay Contest Results

Betty J. Howard

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Michigan District Essay Contest Chairperson



The Michigan District Essay Contest was a magnificent success of skillful writers who articulated this year's theme. Kudos to the 41 clubs who hosted the Optimist International Essay Contest and submitted their winning essay for the Michigan District Essay competition. At the club level, over 323 students participated in this essay writing contest to develop their ability to express their thoughts, ideas and their points of view on "How My Education is the Key to a Successful Future".

Congratulations to our District winner Rachael Moore sponsored by the Huron Valley Optimist Club. She will receive the \$2,500 college scholarship funded by the Optimist International

Foundation, a district plaque and a certificate of participation in the Michigan District Essay Contest. The second place winner was Vivek Vijayakumar from the Roseville Optimist Club and the third place winner was Abigail Wilson from the Muskegon/Mona Shores Optimist Club, both received a plaque and a certificate of participation in the Michigan District Essay Contest.

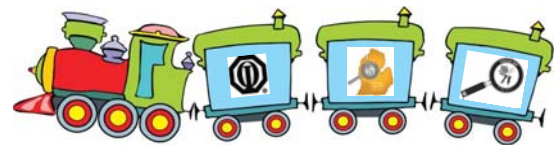
The Essay Contest gives our young people the opportunity to write about their opinions regarding the world in which they live. Let's continue to encourage our youth to participate in this valuable Optimist International activity.

Sound the Whistle! All Aboard the O-P-T-I-T-R-A-I-N!!

Engineer: Bob Schiller

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

Michigan District Optimist International Foundation Representative



This is it! The O-P-T-I-T-R-A-I-N has left the Dearborn Station and is headed for Grand Rapids, MI. Ohhh what an adventure it has been. Our fellow Optimists have been dancin' and slidin' in the aisles as we gain momentum for the final push to the end of our "Focus" year. And speaking of "focus" (don't you just love the segues), what do you think potential members look at when they first enter your meeting place? The food, the people, or your banner(s)? They look at the bling...your banner(s)! Our banners are our club history and reflect our involvement in our community. When was the last time your club added to their history by adding new pins and patches emphasizing your commitment to "Bringing out the Best in Kids!"?

The OI Foundation has a simple way for you to catch up this year and it happens to be the goal for June/July. It's called the "365 Club Patch". For a "club" donation of \$365.00, you will receive a beautiful new patch for your banner that proudly displays the OptiTrain! When guests show up at your meetings, this is the patch that will stand out and grab their attention. Our goal is to display this patch on 34 club banners this year. Please talk to your Board of Directors and encourage them to participate in this program by mailing in a check to me or to the Optimist International Foundation. Better yet, bring your check to our Fourth Quarter Convention celebration and enjoy the thunderous applause of your fellow Optimists.

August and September offer us an opportunity to recognize the hard work of those around us. "Dime-A-Day" (\$36.50) contributions are a wonderful way to say "thank you", or "I am sorry for your loss", or "congratulations on your achievement", or... "I am an Optimist"! When

you make a "Dime-A-Day" contribution, Optimist International will send out a thank you note to the individual you are recognizing (as long as you provide the mailing information, if they are not an Optimist member). The impact of receiving this notice is immeasurable. The phone call from your friend will make your day!

(Another segue) And speaking of making your day, don't forget to get your Raffle Tickets for the 4th Quarter Michigan District Raffle! We have already had a winner for the iPod Touch (2nd Quarter), and John Surhigh won the NOOKcolor eReader at the 3rd Quarter, so now you have a chance to win "Two Nights Accommodations, in a mini-suite, at the Treetops Resort... and you can extend that stay for only \$49 per day"! What a great place to use as a center point while you explore northern Michigan! Requests for tickets are available on our district website (www.michiganoptimists.org) or you can mail your checks, made out to "Optimist International Foundation" to Past Governor Robert Schiller, 4261 Whitebirch Drive, West Bloomfield, MI 48323. The tickets are \$5.00 each and will be mailed to you. The winner will be drawn at the Convention in Grand Rapids by none other than our International President Danny Rogers!

What a wonderful experience you have given me this year as the Foundation Representative. Your generosity and continued support of the OI Foundation is amazing and so much appreciated. Let's show the world of Optimism why Michigan is the #1 District by reaching the aggressive goal set for this year of \$36,500. As always, Silent Auction items are needed at the Fourth Quarter Convention. Your consideration is appreciated.



2011 MICHIGAN DISTRICT CHILDHOOD CANCER CAMPAIGN



Come join us on August 27, 2011 at our Fourth Quarter Convention in Grand Rapids and help us celebrate by participating in the Michigan District Childhood Cancer Walk. This year we will have our traditional one mile walk and for those who would like to go further we will have the CCC Power Walk. Start Time approximately 4:30 p.m.

For \$20.00, each participant will receive a T-shirt. If you're unable to attend the walk, you can still make a donation. Proceeds from the walk will go to the Michigan District Childhood Cancer Campaign Fund.

In order to guarantee your T-shirt, please fill out this form and send it in with your \$20.00(3X & 4X add \$5.00) to Jeanna Clifford – Michigan District Secretary / Treasurer by the week of July 28, 2011.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Club Name and Number: _____

T-Shirt Size: (Check one) S M L XL 2XL 3XL 4XL

****Please make Checks payable to MI District Optimist / CCC Fund ****

Mail Checks To:
Jeanna Clifford – Michigan District Secretary / Treasurer
7460 Atherton
Davison, MI 48423
810-287-2530 or Cliffordjec@aol.com



T-Shirt Sponsor

August 27, 2011 ChildHood Cancer Walk - Grand Rapids

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Phone #: _____

Back of T-Shirt \$50.00 _____ Check # _____

Name / Logo on Shirt (Camera Ready Art Work only - 1 Line) _____

****Please make Checks payable to MI District Optimist / CCC Fund****

Note: Orders must be received no later than July 28, 2011

Mail Checks To:

Jeanna Clifford – Michigan District Secretary / Treasurer

7460 Atherton

Davison, MI 48423

810-287-2530 or Cliffordiec@aol.com



Ending This Optimist Year on a Positive Note A Focus on Membership, New Club Building and College Clubs

“Grow Young”

Michelle Kauffold

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

Michigan District Membership Chairperson



I'm not sure many of you know I'm a music teacher. And as the school year is coming to a close I love reflecting on the growth my students have made this year. The beginning band can play 'real songs' and the choir sang in 2-part harmony at our elementary graduation ceremony. Even the littlest ones I work with have grown so much in a short amount of time.

Have you ever noticed our Optimist year is sort of like a school year? We get started in September, and wait for the next year to start again over the summer. The big difference is Optimism doesn't take summers off, and the big thing we can do this summer is grow more members during our vacations and 'down time'. While visiting a friend or relative be sure to find out if they know about your involvement in your Optimist Club. Invite them to a meeting or to become a FOO.

You know there are Optimist clubs all over our state, let alone our nation, that would welcome you to attend their meeting. Check with the OI website and contact a club in the area you are vacationing and go to their club meeting. Find out what that club does to recruit members and use that info for your club.

I found this song and thought it was appropriate to all of us Optimists and our involvement and how it helps us 'grow young'.

GROW YOUNG by Olivia Newton John

Don't get so busy, don't get so tired
Climbing the ladder and counting each rung
Try not to worry too much to have fun
Don't get so old, you forget to grow young

CHORUS: Grow young, grow young

And maybe this way
You'll be a child again someday
Grow young, grow young
And maybe this way
You'll be a child again someday

Don't get so caught up in telephone wires
That you can't remember the songs that you've sung

And sorry for things that you've already done
Don't get so old, you forget to grow young

Single Focus and Non-Traditional Clubs

Dave Fries

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

Michigan District New Club Building Chairperson



With a little effort and a lot of TLC, 1 club forms. With a lot of effort and a lot of TLC, lots of clubs forms. This year the Michigan District "tree" has grown by over 17 adult and college clubs planned and being created in our state. *Thank you for all your effort to help the kids!*

This Quarter I would like to focus on what could be the future of New Club "growth" in our District:

Non-Traditional Clubs are any previously formed group or organization that supports or promotes programs or activities primarily related to youth.

There is an opportunity to expose members in our community to the many benefits that come with being an Optimist member. Parents and minor sports coaches who devote countless hours to kids, instructors who teach life saving techniques to children, a select group of individuals that support military family activities when their spouse is deployed, a church club, or a recreation club critically needed in a community are examples of Non-Traditional Clubs.

"The possibilities are endless and the concept can be duplicated all over the District."

And there is more...as an Optimist Club, they can continue to meet, hold **fundraising** activities on their own and enjoy being a part of a larger group of individuals who share the same inspiration.

There are also **manpower** benefits. With a larger number of Optimists in your community, all working towards "bringing out the best in kids", the job of providing programs and services to kids becomes easier. We as members already know the benefits of membership.

We are looking for groups between 25 and 50, individuals involved as executives, coaches or volunteers. The truth is that we would prefer previously formed groups to be a Traditional Club.



(continued from page 12)

However, selling that concept to a group that is already formed, running and has its own mission is hard to do. Optimist International approves and understands the Single Focus and Non-Traditional Clubs. Many Optimist Clubs exist to support minor sports, build playgrounds, operate ice arenas, and sponsor youth activities of every type whether organized by an external group or not. Take a look at some of the organizations that are endorsed by Optimist International. Bringing them under our umbrella as an Optimist Club helps them, helps us help them in a very meaningful way. Think about it! As I have always said, "You can do it, we can help!"



Building a College Club? No Problem—Easy as Pie!

Rocco Romano

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

Michigan District College Club Chairperson

Fourth Quarter is an excellent time to build a College Club! Colleges and Universities will be welcoming students back in August and many hold "Welcome Back Fairs" for their students. It's pretty simple, just a few steps you'll need to follow to move forward:

1. Contact the college to find out their procedure for setting up a student volunteer organization. If you know someone at the college who can help you, you're a giant step ahead!
2. Recruit a few students who would like to work with your club to build a College Club.
3. Work with the students to find out when registration and their welcome back fair is and get permission to set up a booth.
4. Plan with the students for a fun and enthusiastic booth filled with information about the club and man it together. You could, quite possibly, get enough members at the registration fair to charter your club.

Contact me for materials, more information, or assistance with building a College Club.



JOOI Clubs Rock!

Cherryl R. Thames

cherryl@quantumleaps-u.com or (248) 5065118
Michigan District 2010-2011 JOOI Advisor



We are helping the community, making new friends and creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Michigan District JOOI Convention 2011. JOOI members are Making New Friends & A Lifetime of Memories!

What fun for the JOOI Clubs of Brighton, Clawson-Troy, Detroit, and Southfield & Lathrup

Village. JOOI Clubs are making a difference 365/12!

Do Something Wonderful JOOI and Making A Difference JOOI Southfield and Lathrup Village have worked together on a Childhood Cancer Campaign Project and this year's Junior Optimist Experience for 6th-8th grade students... Giving Joy, Getting Joy, Sharing JOOI

Loving Eagles JOOI Club - Detroit ... Participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring Hunger Relief Project. They collected 870 canned goods for the SEASONS Ministry which feeds the hungry in Detroit.

Newly Chartered Brighton High School JOOI - Recently held their Charter Reception and two of their leaders are already making new friends as officer-elects of the 2011-2012 JOOI MI Board of Directors.

JOOI Clubs in Action

North Sashabaw El Alpha Club - Held a Thanksgiving Dinner and Food Drive. Eight boxes of food and Kroger gift cards were donated to four families from their school.



Optimists In Action

Shirley Williams

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



Wow!!! What an outstanding year we have had. Can you believe it is already the Fourth Quarter? What an exciting, optimistic and productive year it has been so far for the Michigan District. And we are not even done yet. The clubs are still going strong to make sure that this is a banner year. There is no doubt that we are "making a difference" throughout our communities at large. Kudos to each of you for all you do to promote the spirit of optimism and for a job well done.

The MICHIGAN JOOI DISTRICT is now 756 members and 33 clubs strong as of May 12, 2011 ... and, that's not all. This year's JOOI Convention was themed "Blossoming Leaders" which is sure to be a new mantra for us! We are the third largest JOOI District Internationally and we are most definitely in line to build the most JOOI Clubs for this 2010-2011 year. The new clubs are:

Alpena High School (Alpena)

Brighton High School (Brighton)

Do Something Wonderful JOOI (Southfield-Lathrup)

East Junior Optimists (Farmington-Farmington Hills)

Gill Junior Optimists (Farmington-Farmington Hills)

Power Junior Optimists (Farmington-Farmington Hills)

Our Lady of Sorrows Alpha Club (Farmington-Farmington Hills)*

Our Lady of Sorrows Junior Optimists (Farmington-Farmington Hills)*

★ The **Optimist Club of Central Detroit** had a successful Detroit Repertory Theater fundraiser for our Youth Service projects. Over 50 youth participated in our Tri-Star Basketball tournament with the assistance of the Northwestern High School basketball team. Also the club donated 200 new and used books to the Boys and Girls Club in Detroit.

★ The **Breakfast Optimist Club of Kalamazoo (BOCK)** is having a Right Start party July 19th. All proceeds from this fundraising event will be used to fund their Back-to-School program that typically takes 40+ less fortunate children in Kalamazoo back-to-school shopping in August. They also get a backpack full of school supplies. This shopping trip truly touches the lives of the families and children.

★ The **Loving Community Optimist Club** is planning to hold several classroom presentations at Schulze Elementary School on Wednesday June 1, 2011 and June 8, 2011 both @ 10:00 am. The topic of discussion will be "No More Bullying". Sgt. Bledsoe of the Detroit Police Department will be the presenter.

★ **WSU Warriors, DX Community, Metro Riverfront, and Northwest Detroit Optimist Clubs** held a "Healthy Birthday Party".

Forty young people received new back packs with healthy snacks to promote healthy eating for a healthier quality of life. Party-goers participated in volleyball, line dancing, rock climbing and critical thinking games to promote the importance of exercise.

Shelby Township Area Optimist Club (CONGRATULATIONS!!!!) to the Oratorical Contest winner who was also the winner at the Regional Contest that was held at Baker College on May 7th.

The **Bay City Noon Optimist Club (BCNOC)** hosted the first of their monthly birthday parties on April 28th for the youth currently housed at the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission. There are currently 17 youths at the mission. This program was submitted to the Optimist International Foundation for a Club Grant Award in the amount of \$500, and was approved by the OI Foundation as one of 20 grants awarded on the International level.

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 Fourth Quarter Conference Amway Grand Plaza Hotel 187 Monroe Avenue NW, Grand Rapids MI 49503



<p>Friday, August 26, 2011</p> <p>Saturday, August 27, 2011</p> <p>Sunday, August 28, 2011</p>	<p>Governor's Appreciation Dinner (5:30 p.m.) 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.)</p> <p>General Business Meeting & Breakout Sessions (8:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) Celebration & Installation Banquet (6:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.) Memorial Service & Breakfast Program (8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)</p>
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*****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): _____

Please Check Which Activities You will Attend:

- Early Registration:** _____ @ \$40 = _____
Must be faxed or postmarked before August 11, 2011.
Registration includes coffee, lunch and meeting room charges.
****Hotel parking is included in registration fee****
- Late Registration:** _____ @ \$55 = _____
Faxed or postmarked after August 12, 2011.
Lunch **NOT** guaranteed.
****Hotel parking is included in registration fee****
- JOOI & College Club Members:** _____ @ \$20 = _____
- Past Governors' Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
_____ Healthy Choice _____ Eggs, Meat, and Toast
- Assistant Governors' and Lieutenant Governors' Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:15 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
_____ Healthy Choice _____ Eggs, Meat, and Toast
- First Timer's and Spouse's Continental Breakfast:** _____ @ Free = _____
7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- Spouse's and Guest's Activity:** _____ @ \$10 = _____
Note: Lunch is self pay
- Saturday Evening Dinner and Installation Banquet (Black-tie Optional)** _____ @ \$45 = _____
6:00 p.m. Reception for Optimist International President
 Danny Rodgers and First Lady Jill
6:30 p.m. Celebration and Installation Banquet
- Saturday Evening Dinner – JOOI & College Club Members** _____ @ \$35 = _____
- Michigan District Optimists Family Breakfast:** _____ @ \$20 = _____
8:00 a.m. Memorial Service
9:00 a.m. Breakfast and Program

TOTAL: _____

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

Amway Grand Plaza Hotel
187 Monroe Avenue NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
Telephone: (800) 253-3590 or (616) 774-2000

Reservation DEADLINE: August 12, 2011

**Room Rate: \$99.00 single/double occupancy
(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
536 Green Street
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

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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Next **OptiViews** Deadline August 28, 2011

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

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