



Optimist International WINUM DISTRICT

First Quarter
Newsletter
September 2024

Governor Angie's Message

Happy Optimist New Year! I am excited to begin my term as your WINUM Governor for 2024-2025 beginning October 1. It promises to be a fun-filled year as we incorporate the theme "Optimists Are Just Ducky." It may even quack you up as you get all of your Optimist ducks in a row!

I would like to thank the WINUM Leadership Team for all of their assistance in preparing me for this role, as well as Optimist International (OI) and our Great Plains Region for the excellent governor training. The goals for our district this year are in line with those of OI President Jan Oord Graves and include:

- On Sept. 30, 2025 have a net +5% membership, using Oct. 1, 2024 date as the base.
- Keep retention levels high and engage members in committees.
- Continue to add new members and clubs, including alternative types of clubs such as online clubs.
- Expand external marketing so that when people hear the word "Optimist" they think of our organization first. We need to let people know what "Optimist" is and what it is all about.
- Internally update emails of club members on a regular basis so that they receive communications from OI and the District.
- Encourage club and district leaders as well as other members to go the OI website's Optimist Institute optimist.org/member/optimist-institute.cfm and complete the modules to become more effective in the upcoming year.

Our 1st Quarter Conference will be at the Inn on Maritime Bay in Manitowoc on November 1-2. I look forward to seeing many of you there in this beautiful location as we donate to a service project (see page 2), and have fun and fellowship with other Optimists. In addition to the Governors' breakfast, I added a Lt. Governors' breakfast as well. It is important for you to attend as this Optimist year we will be having only TWO conferences plus convention instead of three conferences and convention. (We will be eliminating the second quarter conference so no one has to travel in hazardous winter weather.)

If you have a club event that you would like me to participate in, please don't hesitate to contact me at the email below. In the meantime, remember to ASK others to be a part of our unique organization, after all, we are the only one that has the Optimist Creed as our foundation.

Bringing out the Best,
2024-25 Governor Angie Riemer angiecolfax@aol.com



2024-25 Governor
Angie Riemer



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WINUM DISTRICT 1st QUARTER CONFERENCE

November 1-2, 2024

Inn on Maritime Bay, 101 Maritime Dr.
Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920) 682-7000

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Subject to change)

Friday, Nov. 1, 2024

6:00pm-10:00pm - Hospitality with Food, Games and Prizes that are Just Ducky
(Summer Picnic Theme: Brats & Hot Dogs)

Saturday, Nov.2, 2024

8:00am - Past Governors' Breakfast (All past governors, governor-elect, and OI guests)

8:00am - Lt. Governor's Breakfast (All current Lt. Governors)

8:00am - First Timers Meeting: If this is your first conference, we have a gift for you!

8:00-10:00am- Check In and Registration

9:00am - Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Words of Wisdom/Meditation with Jodi Arriola

9:20am- Board of Directors Meeting: All members of the District Executive Board and all Club Presidents (or their representatives) are voting members of the board and should be present to conduct any business of the district.

10:00am - Break

10:15am - Chocolate Game

10:45am - Training: "What is Your Why?"

11:45am - Purchase Raffle Tickets

Noon-1:00pm - Lunch & Optimist Foundation Raffle Baskets

1:00pm - Speaker: Amber Daug, "Grow It Forward". Service Project: SEE THE POSTER BELOW FOR A LIST OF ITEMS TO BRING TO THE CONFERENCE FOR THEIR FOOD PANTRY. THANK YOU!

2:00pm - General Session: Leadership Reports

2:45pm - First Timers Introductions

3:00pm - Break

3:15pm TOWN HALL Meeting

3:30pm - Optimist Creed & Farewell



WINUM 1st Quarter Conference
 November 1-2, 2024
 Inn on Maritime Bay, 101 Maritime Dr.
 Manitowoc, WI 54220 (920) 682-7000



Name _____ Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

E-mail address _____ Phone _____

Club Name _____ Zone # _____ Your 2024-25 office (if any) _____

Is this your first conference? _____

REGISTRATION INFO

	Advance (by Oct 26)	On Site	Number	Total \$
_____ Members				
_____ Registration & Saturday Lunch <i>Menu: soup/salad/sandwich buffet</i> (all menus are subject to change)	\$50.00	\$55.00	_____	_____

_____ Spouse/Guest/Child (non-members) Name(s): _____				
_____ Saturday Lunch <i>Menu: soup/salad/sandwich buffet</i> (all menus are subject to change)	\$25.00	\$30.00	_____	_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Make checks payable to WINUM District) \$ _____

THREE WAYS TO REGISTER:

1. Register on-line at www.WinumOptimists.org. Pay with a credit card thru PayPal
2. Register on-line at www.WinumOptimists.org and indicate that you'll pay onsite. Then bring cash/check to the meeting!
3. Snail mail your check & this form to: WINUM Conference Chair Laurel Schirmer, 1807 North 6 Street, Sheboygan, WI 53081

If you would like to request a special meal *due to specific food allergies* please indicate: YES NO
 Type of meal required: _____. Every effort will be made to accommodate special needs.

If you have any questions, please call Laurel at 920-946-7246 or e-mail: schirmerlaurel@gmail.com

ROOM RESERVATIONS: Call the Inn on Maritime Bay at 920-682-7000 to reserve your room. Ask for the WINUM Optimist room block. Rate is \$129 + tax. **Rooms "unblock" October 1, 2024!**

Immediate Past Governor Chuck's Message

Greetings, WINUM Optimists!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Governor during the 2023-2024 Optimist Year. It was a life-changing experience and an excellent way for me to spend my sixth year as a member of Optimist International. I want to thank Governor's Assistant/Past Governor Jann Van Dreser and Past Governors Tammy Koehler and Troy Dostal for their leadership, inspiration, and support. I truly could not have done this job without you!

My theme was "Peace of Mind," reminding us that we need to take care of ourselves to better help our communities and youth. During our 1st Quarter conference, we had a blast bowling, stuffed breakfast bags for United Way, wrote thank you cards for caregivers, and learned about the Boys & Girls Club of the Wausau area. While in Shawano for our 2nd Quarter conference, we enjoyed refreshing beverages at the Sun Drop factory, learned about Toys for Tots in Shawano County, and celebrated Past Governor Tammy's year.

I was thrilled to host everyone in Appleton for our 3rd Quarter conference, celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Appleton Noon Optimist Club while watching the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers baseball team win their home game. We also had an incredible Oratorical Contest, heard from Prevent Suicide Fox Cities, and learned more about mental health. Finally, our 4th Quarter Convention in Eau Claire gave us time to enjoy classic cars, reflect on the past year, prepare for the new year, learn about Hope Village in Chippewa Valley, and formally install Angie Reimer as Governor and Vanessa Rueth as your Governor-Elect.

What an incredible year! There is so much to celebrate and always room to grow. I encourage all of you to continue being Optimists with a capital O. Find a new way to connect with your fellow Optimists at the club, district, or international level. Keep inviting people to join Optimists!

I look forward to staying in touch and seeing you at a future WINUM Conference or Convention.

Peace of Mind,
Immediate Past Governor Chuck Erickson, WINUM District
[920-585-4300](tel:920-585-4300) chuck@CollegeConnectors.com



2023-24 Governor
Chuck Erickson



4th Quarter Town Hall Notes

4th Quarter Convention -- August 17, 2024

- We need to have a service project at every conference/convention. It's always great to give back to the local community.
- Is there a way to share the photos from Friday's social event on Saturday during the conference? This would allow people to see what the event was like if they could not attend.
- We need conference/convention attendees to share their experiences on social media. More visibility!
- Can we connect a First-Timer to someone as a buddy for the conference/convention? Maybe have them sit together? Could we offer them free registration to come back for another conference/convention?
- Overall, people enjoyed the "flow" of the conference schedule, especially starting an hour later.

SAVE THE DATE
**2024-25 Conferences &
Convention**
WINUM District



Nov. 1-2, 2024 Inn on Maritime Bay
101 Maritime Dr, Manitowoc, WI
Newsletter Articles Due: Sept. 15, 2024

April 25-26, 2025 Holiday Inn Convention Center
1001 Amber Ave, Stevens Point, WI
Newsletter Articles Due: March 9, 2025

Aug 15-16, 2025 Hampton Inn
2017 Stout St., Menomonie, WI
Newsletter Articles Due: June 29, 2025

Fourth Quarter Convention Brings in the New Optimist Year



August 17, 2024
4th Quarter Convention
Holiday Inn South, Eau Claire



August 16, 2024
Graham Motor
Museum



Leadership Development Wrap-Up

Sue Van Dreser -- 2023-24 Leadership Co-Chair

Thank you WINUM Optimists for all the fabulous input to our survey, Optimist Institute training challenge, and contributions to round table discussions regarding leadership development at the club and WINUM District levels.

At the 4th Quarter District Convention, we drew for the winning club in the Optimist Institute Challenge. Congratulations to The New Holstein Optimist Club. A \$100.00 donation was made to the Optimist International Foundation in the club's name. They were one of three clubs, along with Two Rivers and Stevens Point Noon, that had all of their officers complete the required officer training for the 2023-24 Optimist year. We also drew numerous names from a pool of individuals that had completed at least one training. They received KWIK Trip gift cards or candy bars. In total, we had 36 members complete 190 sessions. Clubs are stronger when their leaders seek out the important information that will make their club more successful and able to serve more children.



Hopefully, even more club leaders and members will take advantage of all the training the WINUM District and Optimist International has to offer. The Institute is now open to the 24-25 team. Contact Governor Angie Riemer or Bonnie Ciesielski with any questions you may have. Take your training early, even before your term starts on October 1. You will be glad you did! Best wishes in 2024-25!



Consider Adding a JOI Club

Judy Goodchild - 2024-25 JOI Chair

With the beginning of our new Optimist Year and a new school year, consider the possibility of adding a JOI ([Junior Optimist International](#)) Club to your activities.

Clubs can be built in your middle school or high school age groups. If you have a working relationship with your school system that's a good starting point. Is there an activity or a group of students that could use your mentorship? Our Optimist Clubs are all different, offering opportunities that fit in their communities. The same thing is true for the JOI clubs.

As you plan your year, ask your membership if they are interested in working with young people. I am always available to come and visit and help with questions, for the club members.

For those clubs that already have a JOI Club, please send me an email and share your activities. I would love to share them with the district!

QUESTIONS?? Contact Judy Goodchild at goodchild-mom@gmail.com.



Judy Goodchild

Let's Add More Lucky Ducks to Optimist Membership

Ann Sheahan --
2024-25 Membership Chair

Welcome to a DUCKY year!! My name is Ann Sheahan, and I am the membership chair for 2024-2025 year.

As membership chair I will be sending out welcome postcards to EVERY new member we add this year; and boy do I hope I have a hand cramp before September 30, 2025 (because I will be handwriting each card). Keep up the great work of adding members and remember to maintain those current ones as well. Throughout the year I will give you suggestions of how to keep your members and how to recruit new ones. Come to conference and get some ideas too! Remember we are ALL Lucky Ducks because we are Optimists!



Ann Sheahan

SAVE THE DATE!

107th Optimist International Convention
Saint Louis, Missouri
June 30-July 3, 2025.

<https://optimisttyc.org/event/2025-optimist-international-convention-st-louis-missourio-26th/>

Contact [Immediate Past Governor Chuck Erickson](#)
for more information.

OI Foundation Update

Troy Dostal -- 2024-25 Optimist International Foundation Representative



Troy Dostal

Greetings and Happy Fall from Your District Foundation Rep,

I first want to say thank you all for all the hard work over the summer working and volunteering for your clubs and communities. Many volunteer hours were donated to make your various projects successful. I saw a lot of camaraderie in those fair stands frying up cheese curds, elephant ears, brats and all the other yummy foods you all sold. I also saw pictures from parades, kites over Lake Michigan, bike give-a-ways, and school supply give-a-ways. In every picture I saw a hard-working volunteer with a smile and kids with even bigger smiles! Thank you again for everything that you do for the youth in our communities and being that positive role model that they need so much.

As we are nearing our "Optimist year-end" I just wanted to let you know about some upcoming deadlines:

1. All checks and money order contributions to be credited to 2023-2024 Optimist year must be postmarked by Sept. 30, 2024. Those donations along with any paperwork should be mailed directly to Optimist International Foundation, PO Box 952126, St. Louis, MO 63195-2126.
2. Credit card donations should be mailed directly to OI Foundation Office at 4494 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis MO 63108 and **must** be received by Sept. 30th.
3. Credit card donations by telephone, email and fax will be accepted until 6PM CST on Sept. 30, 2024.
4. Donation done online at www.oifoundation.org can be completed until 11:59PM on Sept. 30, 2024.

Again, thank you for all the hard work you do for your clubs and the donations that you make to OI Foundation. The money that OI Foundation gives back in scholarships helps our youth out tremendously. THANK YOU FOR BEING A DONOR! I would like to leave you with this:

What's In Your Cup?

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill the coffee?

"Because someone bumped into me!!!"

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.

Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which WILL happen), whatever is inside you will come out.

It's easy to fake it, until you get rattled.

So, we have to ask ourselves... "What's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratefulness, peace and humility?

Anger, bitterness, harsh words and reactions?

Life provides the cup; YOU choose how to fill it.

Today, let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of affirmation; and kindness, gentleness and love for others.

(Shared from a friend whose cup is full of goodness and inspiration.)

I think it is important to also remember that when the coffee spills out of your cup, the coffee doesn't just burn you, it burns the other people around you that it lands on. You have an unspoken social responsibility to make sure that your cup is full of something that doesn't burn and harm others.

Making the world a better place starts with you and what you decide to put in your cup.

What's in your cup?

Thank you for filling your cup with Optimism and letting it spill over to everyone you meet.

The info from "What's In Your Cup?" is from the website <https://www.thestressexperts.com/blog/whats-in-your-cup>

Zone Reports

ZONE 1 Lt. Governor: Gale Haas

I want to thank Zone One Optimist Club members and officers for your support during my position as your Lt Governor. Time flies when you are having fun they say, and I truly enjoyed meeting the different clubs in Zone One. The hospitality was great, and I made new friends that have a common interest in being an Optimist! I welcome the newly appointed Zone One Lt. Governor Louise Bentley who wears many hats including the editor of the WINUM District newsletter, continue to give her your support.



Lt. Gov. Gale Haas

[The Chippewa Falls Optimist Club](#)

had a busy summer selling cheese curds, brats, hot dogs and French fries at their permanent stand at the Northern Wisconsin State Fairgrounds (see photo above). Their stand was open for the Northern Wisconsin State Fair July 10-14, the Indianhead Car Show on Aug. 4, and Oktoberfest on Sept. 20-21. The club gave away hot dogs and potato chips on Aug. 6 for National Night Out. A new event for them this year was a booth at Pure Water Days Riverfest on Aug. 10, where they had kids' games.



Chippewa Falls club celebrated their 55th Anniversary on July 17th with a cake and reminiscing with the two remaining charter members Dick Kauphusman and Lyle Krumenauer. They recently presented an Educator of the Year Award to club member and newly retired principal Dave Schaller.

[Hallie Optimist Club](#) is committed in the Childhood Cancer Campaign and is busy collecting aluminum Cans For Kids w/cancer. It is a weekly collection of cans by former Charter President Daryl Dehnke, Jim Bakken and myself. The Club has purchased large k9 kennels and placed them within the community, and this year donated over \$10,000 to families with childhood cancer from the Chippewa Valley.

The Hallie Club has donated almost \$100,000 to students since 2001 in college scholarships. Fall and winter events include Chippewa Falls Oktoberfest and Breakfast with Santa.



Hallie Optimist Club members at 4th Quarter Convention.



[Menomonie Optimist Club](#) sponsored a Family Friendly Bicycle ride around Lake Menomonie on August 10 in conjunction with the Chamber Sadistic Century 100-mile race. It was a gorgeous day with free helmets given to all who needed them by Door, Drill and Skow Law Office, and treats provided by Culvers at the check point in Wakanda Park (see photo above).

The club also sold 100 football lottery tickets as a fundraiser and secured three new club members. A very good month for our club!

The [Superior Optimist Club](#) recently held their annual All Things Kids Back to School Event. The club handed out nearly 600 back packs, as shown in photo on right.



[UW-Eau Claire Optimist Club](#) installed their 2024-25 officers on Sept. 11, 2024. On hand, were outgoing Lt. Gov. Gale Haas, Great Plains Vice President Jodi Arriola (in photo) and incoming Lt. Gov. Louise Bentley. Jodi is also the advisor for the UW Club. At the meeting, the club outlined their goals for the year, including volunteering at Joshua Camp and Sleep in Heavenly Peace.



ZONE 2 Lt. Governor: Shannon Dalton

[The Everest Club](#) installation of 2024-25 officers and year-end wrap up will be at Chang Garden on September 26. The club will join with the Mountain Bay Police Department at the Halloween Bash at the middle school on Friday, October 18th. They will have their trailer there, and sell their Fall Fest foods.



Lt. Gov. Shannon Dalton

Zone Reports

Cont. from Page 8

The club donated \$14,000 in scholarships for the year and gave to most of the service organizations that came in to talk at their meetings.

[Wausau Breakfast Optimist Club](#) had a great year selling cheese curds at the Wisconsin Valley Fair, and was the recipient of the fair's award for Best Appetizer. The club also had a successful Swing for Kids Golf Outing. They had a Button Making Booth at the Children's Festival, and made 1,500-2,000 buttons. The club donated to several schools and youth organizations in the Wausau area.

The [Wausau Noon Optimist Club](#) will hold their Installation Banquet Sept. 29 at Rib River Ballroom.

This year the club gave out \$1,800 (3 x \$600) in scholarships to area high school kids, \$500 to the Youth of the Year from Boys & Girls Club, and \$500 to member child (Chase Pemble) under the Friend of Optimist Youth Scholarship for a total of \$2,800.

ZONE 3

There was not a Lt. Governor for 2023-24. Look for a report in the next issue by 2024-25 Lt. Governor [Anna Flahaut](#).

ZONE 4 Lt. Governor: Dan O'Leary

Optimist Club of Howard-Suamico: [Howard-Suamico](#) held their 1st Annual Meat Raffle in July. The event was a huge success, and \$3,815 was raised for the Bay Port High School Marching Band. A special thank you to Past President Harold Peterson and his grandson Alex for a job well done.



Lt. Gov. Dan O'Leary

On July 27, one of their club members, Darold Cichocki, went on the Old Glory Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. The 98 veterans on the flight visited several war memorials and one of the Smithsonian Museums before returning to a Welcome Home ceremony at the EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh (in photo on right).



When Darold was 19, just out of high school, he enlisted in the Army. This was during the

time of the Vietnam War, and when he left the USA by ship, his troop was scheduled to go to Vietnam. During the trip, their orders changed and he spent his 3 years in Okinawa, Japan. That was 50 years ago and being able to go on the Honor Flight was a day he will remember always. A special Thank You to all the Optimist Club members who wrote letters of support for him, and to Darold for his service!



Scholarship Awards were presented to Ethan Brockman and Ashley Rubright, pictured above, 2024 graduates from Bay Port High School. They were selected as the top two recipients to receive the Howard-Suamico Optimist Scholarships of \$1,000 each.

The club's final fundraising event of the term, The Hit the Trails! 5K Run/Walk, was held Sept. 7 at the Brown County Reforestation Camp ski trail system. This event had a turn out of about 150 runners and will return nearly \$5,000 to the NEW Zoo for the Children's Discovery Zone expansion.

ZONE 5 Lt. Governor: Brenda Wolff

No Report.



Lt. Gov. Brenda Wolff

ZONE 6 Lt. Governor: Colleen Sheahan

Brillion Optimist Club: On September 11, the Brillion Club held a NOW event as well as the installation of officers for 2024-25. Members enjoyed grilled steak and chicken as they celebrated a great 2023-24 Optimist year and discussed exciting things that are ahead for the club. The evening is a chance for great fellowship and celebration of all their club is about.



Lt. Gov. Colleen Sheahan

The Horn Park playground project is nearing completion. Installation will occur in the next few weeks, and they

Zone Reports

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hopefully will be completing the last bit of fundraising. The \$340,000 project will bring all new, accessible playground equipment to the park.

The annual Walk Thru Brillion will be held on Saturday, October 26. The fun-filled evening is a great event that brings people into the community for a wide variety of food and beverages at over 20 stops around the town. Music and prizes are also a big part of the evening, which is a great fundraiser as well as a positive community event.

[Chilton Optimist Club](#) held their annual bike rodeo in conjunction with National Night Out. This event was held at the County Sheriff's Department parking lot in Chilton. The club fitted youth with approximately 90 helmets donated by Reinl Accounting, Chilton. In addition to the helmets, children enjoyed time scooting around through an obstacle course with the many big wheels available. Minor bike checks were available to those children who brought their bikes to the event. At the conclusion of the event, two bikes were given away in a drawing. Lots of smiles made it all worthwhile!

The Club also just completed their end of summer fundraiser, a brat, burger/cheeseburger food booth at the Crafty Apple Fest held at the fairgrounds in Chilton. The club has been involved for many years and in addition to the profits, enjoys the camaraderie between members as they work together to raise funds for the kids.



The **Kiel Optimist Club**, together with the Kiel Lion's Club recently sponsored the annual [Kiel Community Picnic](#). Twelve months in the making, the event was held August 8-11 at Kiel City Park. The weather cooperated and attendees enjoyed carnival rides, great food, and music from The Glam Band, Bella Cain and more, *shown in photo above*. On Sunday, the Kiel Area Chamber of Commerce sponsored a large parade with entertainment continuing in the park. The event was very well attended. Proceeds will go toward youth organizations and City Park improvements.

[Two Rivers Optimist Club](#) has had a very busy and successful summer. The club was awarded an OI Foundation Club Grant for a new project and were able to use the money to purchase some needed items to feed the kids in their school district over

the summer. This was a new project and had many adjustments as they went along; however, it was successful and they hope to continue some type of food program going into the school year.

Two Rivers held their annual Great Bike Give-A-Way at the end of July. *As shown in the photo*, 116 new bikes and helmets were given away to over 273 children in the community. They wished they could have had them all leave with a new bike, but they do this every year, and hopefully the non-winners will leave with a new one next year.



The club's biggest fund raiser has come to an end this year after 19 years of existence. It was a great run with Kites over and near Lake Michigan. This fall the club will start up their JOI Club at the high school with numerous events planned. The adult club and JOI club really support each other throughout the entire year, and they look forward to another great one. Installation of their new president will take place in October as they welcome Judy Goodchild as club president for the 2024-25 Optimist Year.

ZONE 7 Lt. Governor:

Tom Binish - OPEN For 2024-25

[Contact Gov. Angie](#) if interested.

The [Appleton Noon Optimist Club](#) has been very busy as usual! Here is what's upcoming: Oct. 2, 5pm - Installation Dinner, Oct. 9, Noon - October Business Meeting, Nov. 1-Nov. 2nd WINUM Q1 Conference, Manitowoc, Nov. 2- Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner, and Dec. 13, 5-7p - Building for Kids Grinch Event (club sponsored event).



Lt. Gov. Tom Binish

The Appleton Noon Club has officially launched their new web site: www.appletonnoonoptimists.com. Check it out and contact Ben Elsner for more information.

The club sponsored the [Fox Cities Butterfly Festival](#) on the 28th of August and had over 200 kids come through the Butterfly Gardens that day. The club was also out cleaning up local Outagamie County highways. A great way to be noticed by the community!

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Zone Reports

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On Sept. 10, the club sponsored the Optimist Mini Golf Tournament at Badger Sports Park (see photo). A portion of the event proceeds was returned to the club in exchange for selling tickets. What a great fundraiser that benefited so many area youth.



The Appleton Noon Optimist Club meets for noon lunch most Wednesday's. Stop in to visit and catch up if in the area!

[Greenleaf Wrightstown Optimist Club](#) continues to work hard at supporting the youth in the Greenleaf/Wrightstown communities. On Saturday, Sept. 7 the club held their "Youth Day at the Park". They had a nice day with 229 registered kids. Many of their Optimist members helped along with 26 of their Jr. Optimist members as shown in photo on right.



Greenleaf-Wrightstown also tried a cash raffle for the first time, it was not as successful as they hoped, but they were able to hand out prizes to eight \$500 winners while still netting \$1,980 for the club.

The next planned event for the club is an Octoberfest Golf Outing on October 5. With two betting holes – this is sure to be a "Gamblers Favorite"!

[Hilbert Potter Optimist Club](#) met for their first fall meeting on Monday Sept. 10 and granted three Hilbert High School Alumni Scholarships: \$500 Business Administration Major, \$300 Communication Sciences & Disorders Major, and \$300 Nursing Major.

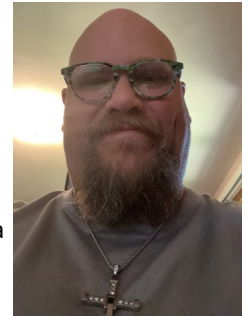
The very successful fundraiser, "Hilbert-Potter Community Calendar", was the summer fundraiser, and new calendars begin with the Optimist year October 1. The Hilbert Bingo Bash will be Saturday Nov. 23. Come one come all!

This summer the club was awarded a certificate of recognition by the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators. Hilbert Public Schools Superintendent Anthony Sweere nominated their club.

President Tammy Koehler reports that they put out an annual 'Giving Back' marketing piece at all events they do. A great idea for other clubs to follow!

The next Hilbert-Potter Meeting will be Monday, Oct. 7, 2024 at 6:00pm at the Local Lounge and is to include a NOW (NewOptimistsWelcome) Social. Members should bring a friend they think might like to join.

ZONE 8 Lt. Governor: Ben Elsner



Lt. Gov. Ben Elsner

[Fond du Lac Evening Club](#) will be doing the School Donation Project this fall, which will entail delivering school supplies to FDL area schools.

Fond du Lac Evening recently donated \$500 worth of sheets, pillows and comforters to Sleep in Heavenly Peace Fond du Lac chapter. Optimist members, Todd, Wetzel and Bonnie Lamb dropped off the donation to this great organization that builds and delivers beds to Fond du Lac area children in need of a bed. Pictured are Tom Otte (Sleep in Heavenly Peace Fond du Lac chapter co-president) and Optimist members Bonnie Lamb and Todd Wetzel with some of the donated items.



The club celebrated Milt Bartelt's 100th birthday and 69 years as an Optimist member on September 11th. (Milt is pictured on right.)

Happy birthday Milt! 🎂



2024-2025

OI Leadership Team

OI President: [Jan Oord Graves](#)
OI Vice President-Great Plains,
[Jodi Arriola](#)

WINUM Executive Team:

Governor: [Angie Riemer](#)
Immediate Past Governor:
[Chuck Erickson](#)
Past Governor: [Tammy Koehler](#)
Governor Elect: [Vanessa Rueth](#)
Treasurer: [Mark Sprangers](#)
Secretary: [Deb Braden](#)
Gov. Advisor: [Romey Wagner](#)

Committee Chairs:

Communications/Newsletter:
[Louise Bentley](#)

District Conferences &
Convention: [Laurel Schirmer](#)
Essay Contest: [Shannon Dalton](#)
Finance Chair: [Tammy Koehler](#)
First Timers: [Lori VanNatta](#)
Growth Chair: [Greg Goodchild](#)
Hospitality: [Deb Braden](#)

Int'l Convention Ambassador:
[Chuck Erickson](#)

JOI & College Clubs:
[Judy Goodchild](#)

Jr. Golf: [Brenda Wolff](#)
Leadership Development:
[Bonnie Ciesielski](#)

Marketing: [Lisa Thelen](#)
Membership Engagement:
[Ann Sheahan](#)

OI Foundation Rep:
[Troy Dostal](#)

Oratorical Contest:
[Mary Sue Edens Kuss](#)

Photography:
[Mary Joan O'Leary](#)

Technology: [Gary Sheahan](#)
Website Advisor: [Angie Riemer](#)
Welcome/Greeter:
[Peggy Olevson](#)

Lt. Governors:

Zone 1: [Louise Bentley](#)
Zone 2: [Shannon Dalton](#)
Zone 3: [Anna Flahaut](#)
Zone 4: [Ben Elsner](#)
Zone 5: [Brenda Wolff](#)
Zone 6: [Colleen Sheahan](#)
Zone 7: OPEN
Zone 8: [Ann Sheahan](#)

Zone Reports *Cont. from Page 11*

[North Fond du Lac Club](#) had a great summer, which included a very successful golf outing and NFL Raffle ticket fundraiser. Pictured on right are a few members digging out and forming pads for three new benches at Optimist Park.



Upcoming events include Pancake Day, Light up the Park, and maybe something new coming in mid-December.

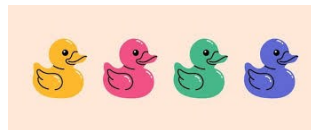
The [Optimist Club of Sheboygan](#) took part in the Back to School Basics August 10 in partnership with Longfellow School.

Upcoming Event:

Sometimes 'Adult-ing' can get to be too much! Come and join Sheboygan Club for an evening of laughs with



the hilarious John McGivern as he recollects 'Fall-ing' in Wisconsin on Saturday, October 19 at 7pm.



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 fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

--Optimist International



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