

# Illinois District Optimist Land of Lincoln Bulletin



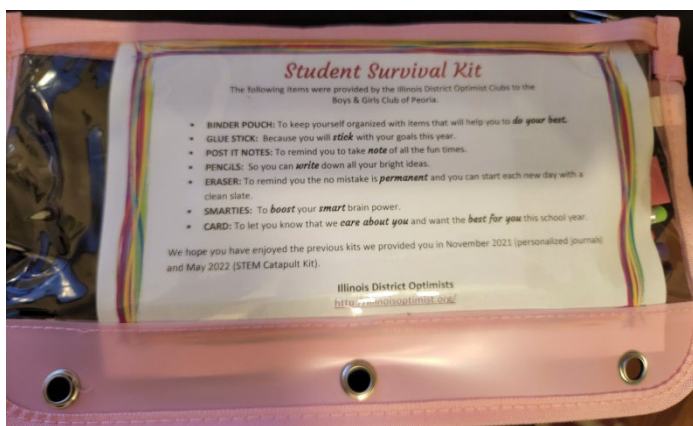
September 2022

## It's the last month of the 2021-22 club year – Let's Finish Strong!

Hello, Illinois District Optimists!

As you're reading this, we are in the last weeks of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of the Optimist Creed and the Illinois Districts, "Living the Creed" 2021-22 club year. The time has flown by, and I'd like to thank each of you for all you've done to make a difference for the kids, your club, and your community. As I've traveled around the District visiting clubs, I've heard about the amazing projects that you've been doing for the kids in your communities, I know that the future is bright for those kids and for the success of Optimism in Illinois!

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Convention in East Peoria, August 12-13, saw a small but enthusiastic group of Optimists come together for the final installment of the "Living the Creed" program. We also had a wonderful presentation by our own Sandi Schmidt on "Club Transitions: Building Our Future," which helped us realize that great leaders don't succeed because they are great. They succeed because they bring out the greatness in others. We practiced things we should and should not say when recruiting potential leaders. While we learned that not every member has the desire to serve as president, or an officer of your club, EVERY member has the ability to be a leader in the club. The key is identifying the leadership traits in your members and then nurture them to their full potential.



At each of our face-to-face meetings this year, I had the participants make a project which would be distributed to the Boys and Girls Club of Peoria. We made decorated journals with positive quotes at our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter meeting, STEM catapult kits at our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter conference and "Back to School" Survival kits at our 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Conference. These kits included pencils eraser, glue stick, "Smarties" candy – to boost their smart brain power, post-it-notes and a personalized card from an Illinois District Optimist encouraging the receiver to do their best this school year. I'll be dropping off these kits on September 6<sup>th</sup> as I travel to visit with both the Princeton and Chillicothe clubs.

As I've traveled around the District this year, the one question that I get at almost every club meeting is "How can we attract younger members to become Optimists?" I've done a lot of thinking on this question and I think that the key is finding out what younger people in your community desire for their children and the kids in the community. Show them that by grouping together under the Optimist umbrella, possibly as a "Club within a Club" they can achieve those goals. I do know that younger people are not interested in traditional meetings, so a difference format such as the "Club within a Club" may be the answer. A FAQ sheet that answers some of the questions about the "Club within a Club" is included in this bulletin.

Again thank you for the warm hospitality that has been shown to me as I traveled around the District. I've really enjoyed serving as your District Governor and meeting all the wonderful Optimists around the state. Thank you for this opportunity to serve you.

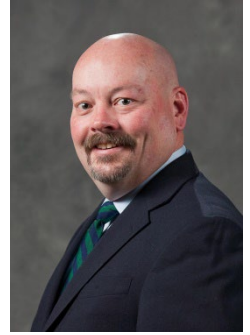
*Carol Schlitt*

Illinois Optimist Governor 2021-22

# From your 2022-23 Illinois District Governor - Designate

Hi Everybody!

This is Governor-Designate Ron Elvin with a special invitation for you to join the fun at our upcoming 2022-2023 1st Quarter Conference in East Peoria. The date is Friday October 14th and Saturday October 15th at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites (same as last year).



This year's theme is: "Optimist Club, Not Just for Kids Anymore."

Meet this year's lineup of officers and special guests and join in the fun of optimism with us.

At the time of publication the Holiday Inn direct links were not available but you can call direct to make your reservation at 309-698-3333 or 844-209-3559. Be sure to mention the Optimist conference for special pricing, we were able to keep the same room rates for you as last year. I will send out the direct links for you when they become available.

I look forward to seeing you there and a great Optimist Year ahead!

Also, don't miss this opportunity to be part of the team!

There are still some leadership openings available at the zone and district levels for you to share your skills or develop new skills in the pursuit of optimism.

We are currently looking for members to be involved with Zone leadership, Membership growth, the Essay Contest, the district website, OI Convention Ambassador, and Sergeant at Arms for the district conferences. In addition, if you have a passion for something not on the list let me know and we can figure out how to include that as well.

Feel free to contact me at [elvinmanor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:elvinmanor@sbcglobal.net) or 630-664-4520 with your questions and to get involved.

In Optimism,

Ron Elvin  
Governor Designate  
Illinois District

# Welcome New Members

Since the last Land of Lincoln Bulletin in June, we have added 29 new members to the Illinois District Optimist Family. We welcome these new members and thank their sponsors for leading them into their clubs.

## New Member

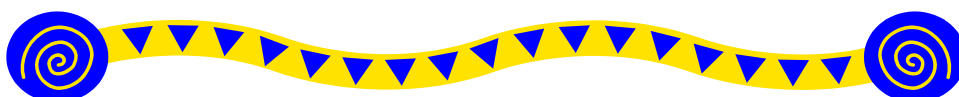
## Club

## Sponsor

Karen Hitzeman	Glenview	John G. Good
Dennis Kmiec	Oak Park	Allan Hippensteel
Sally Padgitt	Oak Park	Allan Hippensteel
Robert Kaiser	Oak Park	Allan Hippensteel
Donna J. Hippensteel	Oak Park	
Tom DePasquale	Rock Falls	
Jeff Brown	Rock Falls	Kelly E. Keaschall
Shay Brown	Rock Falls	Kelly E. Keaschall
Jamie Gisi	Rock Falls	Roland Salas
Rene Sandoval	Moline	Victor Mereno
Gary Smith	Moline	Patrick Wendt
Tim White	Chillicothe	Terry L. Quick
Adele Wheeler	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Joey Campbell	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Scott Mutchier	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Walter S. Dare	Delavan	Shirley Garlish
Steven D. Skinner	Delavan	Shirely Garlish
Linda Slabaugh	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Elizabeth Skinner	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Greg Dirks	Delavan	Steven D. Skinner
Vicki Dirks	Delevan	Steven D. Skinner
Gary Slabaugh	Delevan	Steven D. Skinner
Nicholas Hun	Quincy	Aiden P. McDonnell
Ron Omer	Springfield Breakfast	Mark R. Depue
Newlyn Hosea	Springfield Breakfast	Mark R. Depue
Jennifer L. Hays	Belleville	Rich R. Gaebel
Richard Gambichler	Granite City	Karen. L Gambichler
Brandon Callahan	Highland	David Callahan
Robbie Donnewald	Highland	Jeff D. Foehner

We now have a total of 97 new Optimist members in Illinois since October 1, 2021 and I know that number will keep growing! Every time we welcome a new member, we increase our ability to serve the youth and our communities, so the real winners here are the kids.

Keep up the good work, everyone!





**Nancy Roach-Wilder, Editor  
Co-Lt. Governor Zone 1  
Deerfield and Elgin Optimist Clubs**

**New members to Optimist International, will be inspired by everyone they meet, and by our history. Born during tough times, OI seeks to shine a light on the transformational power of optimism.**

**While optimism isn't always easy, it is an effective tool for good. . As demonstrated by the many significant anniversaries we will highlight this year. 25, 50, 75 years, our clubs have been helping their neighbors, building stronger communities Our attitudes, point of view, and positive behaviors matter. Each one of us, can reach others. One family, one neighborhood, one project and one club at a time. By living the Creed we can restore hope.**

**And so with gratitude for each of you and your results I present the September 2022 Newsletter. From important announcements like the Membership Drive, and program results, we celebrate our contributions here.**

**For 2022-23 Continue to submit your special news, by marking the subject line, Optimist Bulletin, to: [nroach12@gmail.com](mailto:nroach12@gmail.com). Your good work encourages others. Yours in optimism, Nancy Roach-Wilder,CFP®, Co-Editor, [nancy.roach@prudential.com](mailto:nancy.roach@prudential.com) 224-305-2257 , Carol Schlitt, Co-Editor [cschlitt54@gmail.com](mailto:cschlitt54@gmail.com) 618-977-7787**



## Golfers from 30 different communities compete at the Illinois District Qualifier.

Golfers, fifty-six in total, from communities throughout the state arrived in Decatur June 13-15 to compete in the Illinois District qualifier. This year's tournament was held at the Red Tail Run golf course, a well-respected course that hosts the Illinois Class A girls golf tournament. Golfers competed in six of the seven age divisions offered with no entries

in the girls 10-12 age group. As usual the stiffest competition was in the oldest boy and girl age divisions. Winners and those qualifying for "THE OPTIMIST" in Doral are as follows:

### Girls

Age: 13-14 Macie Petropoulos,\* Springfield

Age 15-18 Dani Grace Schrock, Pontiac

Catalina Easley,\* Cantrall

Reagan Kennedy, Bloomington

Elaine Grant, Chillicothe

Calli Smith, Waterloo

Emily Charles,\* St. Charles

### Boys

10-11 Eli Lucas, Highland

12-13 Ty Novosel,\* Quincy

14-15 Braden Hayes,\* Gridley

16-18 Peyton Woods,\* Springfield

Jake Baldin,\* Springfield

Dominick Emig, Highland

Carter Eteridge, Springfield

All golfers listed shot qualifying scores to compete in "The Optimist" in Doral. Those with an \* by their name did represent the district in "The Optimist". While the four older boys qualified Illinois was allocated 2 entries by Optimist International, and thus only the top two golfers could go in July.

The Illinois District Golf committee expresses a Big Thank You to the following clubs for their support as hole sponsors for the 2022 tournament. Those clubs are Milan, Alton, Princeton, Highland, Glenview, Taylorville, Sterling, Moline Breakfast, Deerfield, Oak Park, Quincy, Waterloo, Freeburg, and the PGA (Past Governors Association). These funds along with other hole sponsorships from businesses are used to send the district winners to "The Optimist" tournament in July.

An additional Thank You to the Optimist Club of Alton for sponsoring the skills contest prizes. This contest is held during the practice round and consisted of seven \$50.00 gift certificates to the pro shop at Red Tail Run.

Mark your calendar for the second full week in June for the 2023 Illinois District Qualifier to be held at Red Tail Run Golf Club in Decatur, IL.

The Illinois District Golf Committee for 2022 was Nancy Roach Wilder from the Deerfield Club, Mark Cappel from the Alton Club, Adam Vocks from the Taylorville club, Scott Novak from the Highland Club and Terry Wright, former district golf chairman for 26 years, from the Taylorville Club. The committee is chaired by Bill Wagner from the Highland Club.



# Enjoy these pictures from our June Illinois Junior Optimist Tournament in Decatur

June 13-15, 2022  
Red Tail Run Golf Club

It was 100 degrees in the shade for most of our 3 day event. Several families made the difficult decision, on site, to pull their child from the competition. Those who chose to stay did a really fine job under the conditions.



**1<sup>st</sup> Place Peyton Woods Springfield**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Jake Baldin Springfield**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Dominick Emig, Highland**

**Bill Wagner – IL District Jr Golf Chairman**

















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## ***2021-22 District Membership Campaign wraps up with \$500 to be awarded to a club at the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022-23 District Meeting!***

The 2021-22 club year district membership campaign was designed to create a positive atmosphere for membership within the Illinois District. During the District Conferences, clubs have been presented checks growth with the Illinois District. The District Board of Directors The approved \$2175 for recognition incentives to clubs for meeting the criteria of the campaign which was outlined in the March 2022 Land of Lincoln Bulletin (you can find the bulletin on the IL District website [www.illinoisoptimist.org](http://www.illinoisoptimist.org) under members)

\$75 Winter Quarter winners were presented April 30, 2022. The winning clubs were Freeburg,

\$150 Spring Quarter winners presented at District Convention August 12-13, 2022. The winning clubs were Freeburg

The \$500 grand Prize winner will be presented at the Fall Conference – October 14-15, 2022

The great part of this campaign is that clubs are free to use these proceeds as the club winners feel best serves their needs and were provided by the district as recognition for maintaining an Optimistic spirit during these COVID times.

Who will the \$500 grand prize winners be? Come to the Fall District Conference and find out!

**Bill Wagner, Illinois District Membership Chair, 618-401-0681 [wwagner6@charter.net](mailto:wwagner6@charter.net)**

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## **From Illinois District Foundation Representative, Rich Gaebel**

**Hello Fellow Optimists.**

**I know the past years have been tough for all of us, including our family and friends. It has been tough for our clubs and the Optimist International Foundation and definitely the youth in our communities. I know that you and your clubs dug deep to help the Foundation as well as you could. The Optimist Foundation did not forego any Optimist Programs. All programs were funded as before the pandemic.**

**What we need to do is dig deep and do what we can. If you can donate to “Dime-A-Day,” that’s one dime each day amounting to \$36.50 that would be great. There continue to be ways to contribute as a member and a club.**

**Please review [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org) foundation tab, to see what the program does and is planning to do, that would be great. Ask your club Foundation Representative what you can do to help to spread the word. Thank you!**

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## **“Club within a Club” Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Q. What is a “Club within a Club”?**

**A. “Club within a Club” is a group of at least 15 new Optimist Members that are added to your Club in order to expand service to your community. They are still Members of your Optimist Club, but they function somewhere outside the scope of your Club’s traditional membership base and activities.**



## **Q. What are some examples?**

A. Examples include:

- A morning or afternoon Club that adds 15 new Members by adding an evening meeting to accommodate community Members unable to meet during the day.
- A Club with an older membership base that brings in a group of young professionals or college students to bolster membership, help with existing projects, and bring new ideas and excitement.
- A Club that recruits a group of teachers or other school personnel to work directly with the school.
- A group of Members that focuses solely on one project all year like a major town fair or childhood cancer. Think of them like an expanded committee.

The whole point of a “Club within a Club” is to get Optimist Club’s to think “outside the box” in their membership recruitment and activities. There are unlimited possibilities.

## **Q. How do I form one?**

A. Look for any opportunities within your community. Think of a special project that needs to be accomplished. Are there other volunteer groups working in your area that might benefit from a partnership with your Optimist Club? Consider your Club’s current membership. Are there any groups in your community that you are failing to attract? Younger people? Teachers? Men? Women? The most successful Optimist Clubs have diverse memberships reflecting a cross-section of all ages, genders, professions, and backgrounds existing in their communities. Why are these groups not joining your Club? What could you do to change that? A common example is an Optimist Club that fails to attract younger Members or working people because they meet in the morning or afternoon.

## **Q. What is the cost?**

A. There is no Charter fee. Clubs will be billed for the Members of the “Club within a Club” in the same manner in which they are billed for other Members. A regular, adult Member still pays the \$15.00 processing fee and full International and District dues. If they are Friends of Optimist, college Members, \$30 under 30, etc., they will be billed accordingly. Any class of Optimist Member may be included in a “Club within a Club”. They will be included in your dues billing along with your other Members.

Q. Does the “Club within a Club” have its own officers?

A. They may have informal officers to help conduct their meetings and business. The main Club’s officers and Board of Directors are still the legally responsible party.

Q. Can they open their own bank account?

A. Maybe. The “Club within a Club” does not have their own unique governmental filing information, which is required for nonprofits to open a bank account in most countries. You would need to ask your bank about the process of opening another account using the same governmental filing information.

Groups that wish to have their own officers and/or bank account may be better off as a new, independent Optimist Club. See below for more information.

**Q. How does this differ from new Club building?**

A. A “Club within a Club” is not fully autonomous to operate how it chooses. The main Club’s Board of Directors is still legally responsible for the new group’s activities and finances. This is great for groups that do not wish to worry about Club administration, officer elections, governmental filings, etc.

Many groups wish to be autonomous. If a group wants to have their own legally responsible officers, bank accounts, etc., they should probably be formed as a new Club. If you are unsure if a group should be a new Club or a “Club within a Club”, please call the Membership Department at 800-500-8130 ext. 226.

**Q. My Club just had a successful membership recruitment drive and added 15 Members? Do we get credit for a Club within a Club?**

A. While this is a great accomplishment, it is not a “Club within a Club” unless these 15 Members are doing something differently than your Club’s traditional activities.

**Q. If the “Club within a Club” eventually decides it should become its own Optimist Club, will they be able to?**

A. Yes.

**Q. If they do break off to form their own Club, will the original Club be hurt for awards purposes?**

A. No

**Q. Once we have identified and recruited our 15 Members, how do we notify Optimist International?**

A. All 15 Members must be added on the same day. You may add the Members yourself online at [www.optimistleaders.org](http://www.optimistleaders.org). After that, notify Optimist International that you have done so at the contact information at the bottom of this page. Please email [jim.boyd@optimist.org](mailto:jim.boyd@optimist.org) or call 800-500-8130 ext. 226 or 227 with any other questions.

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**ACH Payments for Club Dues**

By Sandi Schmidt, 2021-22 District Secretary-Treasurer

Here’s a great idea to save your club’s Treasurer time, while reducing the effort required to pay your Optimist International and District Dues – sign up for ACH Payments today. A recent article of The Optimist magazine detailed the advantages of using the Automated Clearing House (ACH) payment system to pay your club’s dues and new member fees. You can check out that article on page 19 in the online magazine

[https://issuu.com/optimist551/docs/winter\\_2022\\_magazine\\_final.ndd?r=sMmM3NDQ2MTA5MDk](https://issuu.com/optimist551/docs/winter_2022_magazine_final.ndd?r=sMmM3NDQ2MTA5MDk)

No need to worry about missing a payment or sending it in late. No more checks to write for dues or stamps to mail the payments. It's simple and it works well.

When you use this payment method, your Treasurer receives an email with the club's dues invoice, showing the amount due for the quarter. Then about 5 days later, the money is automatically withdrawn from the bank account your club authorized. Optimist International deposits your club dues amount in our District Bank Account and sends a report to the District Secretary-Treasurer of the payments that have been made.

To enroll in ACH Payments, simply follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org).
2. Select Member Resources.
3. Under Administration & Tax Information, select ACH Debit.
4. Complete and submit the applicable Authorization Agreement

If you have any questions about the ACH Payment enrollment process, please email [ar@optimist.org](mailto:ar@optimist.org). If you have questions about how this all works, you can contact me at [schmidtsandi@gmail.com](mailto:schmidtsandi@gmail.com) or call me at 309- 236-1342.

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## Havana Optimist Club celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Illinois Optimist Governor, Carol Schlitt, attended the Havana Optimist Club BBQ meeting on Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. Since the pandemic, the club has been meeting in a very clean garage adjacent to the Bowling Alley/Restaurant where they had previously been meeting. Twelve club members gathered for a delicious BBQ steak dinner hosted by Todd Mendenhall. Governor Schlitt presented President Evan Jones with a proclamation honoring the club for 75 years of service to Havana, Bath and Kilbourn communities and their youth. The Optimist Club built the Havana swimming pool and have had numerous fund raisers over the years to support their scholarship program and their Christmas coats for kids program.



On Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, the Havana Club held its annual Golf Scramble Tournament at the County Hills Golf Club in Greenvew. Proceeds from this event will help fund their extensive scholarship program.

***Congratulations to the Havana Optimist Club of 75 years of service to your community.***

## 2022 IL District Optimist Club Grants

Three grants were awarded at our 3rd IL District Optimist Conference April 29-30, 2022 at the Holiday Inn Suites in East Peoria, IL.

\$500 went to the **Marshall Clark County Optimists** for their gifts of \$15 Walmart certificates for children's shoes and coats; \$300 went to the **Silvis Volunteers** (a club-within-a-club of the Silvis Optimists) for their teacher appreciation certificates; and \$200 went to the **Glenview Optimists** for a NOW event on June 2<sup>nd</sup> which featured a band and raffle. As a result, Glenview has added 7 new members this club year.



Members of the Glenview Optimist Club enjoying a night under the stars.





## **Millstadt Optimist Club and Millstadt Library to bring The Dolly Parton Imagination Library**

The Millstadt Optimist Club in collaboration with the Millstadt Library is beginning a brand new project designed to bring age-appropriate books into the home of pre-school children in the 66260 zip code.

Each month a new carefully selected book will be mailed to the enrolled children, ages 0-5. The first book is always the children's classic *The Little Engine That Could*<sup>™</sup>. Best of all it is a FREE GIFT to the child with the cost of the program bore out through the partnership of the Optimist club and the library.

Brian McCormick, President of the Millstadt Optimist Club says the cost per child is approximately \$25 per year with a total potential of 400 children being enrolled in the program. The program officially began on September 2 and the club has committed \$5000 for the start-up of this fantastic program.

For more information about Dolly Parton Imagination Library, please see

[www.imaginationlibrary.com](http://www.imaginationlibrary.com)

# Deerfield Optimists Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## History of Optimist Club of Deerfield Illinois

In 1972 a group of educators, teachers, business people, and administrators from the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC), headquartered in Deerfield Illinois, with Jim Eanes, formed the club. Jim was a current Optimist member. Other early Presidents and Leaders were Charles “Bud” Beattie of Baxter, Herb Wenger and Don Lindsley from school district 110 and Richard “Bud” Angvall, President of American Rubber & Gasket Company,



Deerfield Optimists celebrated 50th Anniversary with an Ice Cream Social

These men started the club and helped it grow over the next 25 years. As of this writing all have died. But in each obituary it is written they were a member or president of the Deerfield club.

The club was initially a breakfast club that met 7 am so working members could attend. And there was one evening meeting a month. The club started selling trees in 1978 in a small wooden shack in back of what was then the village hall. Heated by kerosene lamp. Around 1983-85 the Deerfield Park District (DPD) allowed us to use Jewett Park, where we sold trees for over 30 years. We rented trailers for the 4-5 week period. In 1989 we bought the trailer that we currently have.

For the last 15 years the DHS Wrestling team under Coach Pechter has volunteered to help unload the Christmas trees to the lot. It has become an annual event with alumni showing up to help. The tennis team also volunteers, under Coach Leighton. We couldn't hold the sale without them. A donation to DHS is made to honor these teams.

The Optimist Club and the DPD have formed a long, strong relationship over the years. We've had Easter egg hunts sold tickets for Family days, staffed “Mudfest” volley ball, tug-o-war and pie eating contest for High Schoolers on Labor Day weekend; helped with Halloween Hoopla. In turn the DPD sets up the tree lot, runs electricity to our trailer and provides overhead lighting. For 20 years we had Mr. and Mrs. Santa Clause show up. In turn the Club makes a sizable yearly donation to the DPD and its foundation.

In 1987 we welcomed our first female member, Virginia Pokorny, who became our first female President 1994-5. We have selected a teacher of the year with an award in her honor. Steve Strauss, president 1981-82, was a principal in Evanston, is credited with the extremely successful Special Essay Contest in partnership with the North Shore Special Education District (NSSD). NSSD teachers and kids get little recognition, so we decided to include their Jr High students in writing, competing and being awarded. For over 25 years we have been doing that contest. We have had as many as 350 people attend the awards dinner. As of this writing NSSD is known as “True North” and located in Northbrook.

Another project Deerfield Club did for many years was working with Camp One Step, a cancer camp on Lake Geneva. The kids attended two weeks in July from the northern suburbs and Chicago. We created a Christmas in July for them with a variety of toys and gifts. Mary Robinson and club members raised money and bought the gifts. We also had a Christmas party for cancer kids at the Embassy suites hotel. It also was a big success and very inspiring.

Covid paused tree sales for a year but in 2021 The DPD moved us across the park and with good signage, publicity and member effort we sold out the 425 trees we had ordered. Optimist Christmas trees and Deerfield go together and over the years we have given out over \$100,000 in scholarships to District 113 seniors wholly on the basis of volunteerism to the community.

The club has had as many as 100 members, with women and men equally being active and holding office. Currently we are a luncheon club with a monthly evening meeting.

Today as I write this, the Optimist Club of Deerfield, known for being “The Friend of Youth” has a vital role to play in the Community. And it is essential that the world needs Optimists.

Written by Lawrence Feder  
March 2022

***Congratulations Deerfield on 50 years of making your community better!***

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## **Illinois District Poster Contest Changes for the 2022-23 Optimist Year**

By Charles Mayhew, 2022-23 IL District Poster Chair

The gender division of boys and girls for the poster contest has been eliminated. Also, the stated size and orientation of the poster has been removed from the Illinois District Policies.

The poster contest will now be open to third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. There will be two divisions – one for third and fourth grade and one for fifth and sixth grade. Each club may submit posters for one winner in each division.

Posters shall be a uniform size, to be determined by the Governor and District Poster Chair and published in the contest rules.

The back of the poster should contain the following information: grade, teacher's name, student's full name, address, and phone number.

Contest theme, rules and submission information will be coming out to clubs this fall.

# TAKE NOTE: Important District Dates

|                                     |                                                     |                                                |                                                                |                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Illinois District Conference</b> | Registration information will be emailed to members | <b>October 14-15, 2022</b>                     | <a href="http://illinoisoptimist.org">illinoisoptimist.org</a> | <b>Ron Elvin, Governor<br/>Holiday Inn - Peoria, IL</b>                                                               |
| <b>District Jr. Golf</b>            | Committee is always looking for new members         | <b>June – 2<sup>nd</sup> full week in 2023</b> | <a href="http://www.oijgc-il.org">www.oijgc-il.org</a>         | <b>Bill Wagner, District Golf Chair</b>                                                                               |
| <b>New Club formation</b>           |                                                     |                                                | <a href="http://optimist.org">optimist.org</a>                 | <a href="mailto:schmidtmartinC@gmail.com">schmidtmartinC@gmail.com</a>                                                |
| <b>District Oratorical Contest</b>  | Rules will be coming out soon                       | <b>Ongoing</b>                                 | <a href="http://www.optimist.org">www.optimist.org</a>         | <b>Sam Meier, Oratorical Chair</b><br><a href="mailto:sam.meier@edwardjones.com">sam.meier@edwardjones.com</a>        |
| <b>District Poster Contest</b>      | <b>Theme and rules will be released this fall</b>   | <b>Due Date TBD</b>                            | <a href="http://illinoisoptimist.org">illinoisoptimist.org</a> | <b>Charles Mayhew, Poster Chair</b><br><a href="mailto:charles.c.mayhew01@gmail.com">charles.c.mayhew01@gmail.com</a> |

Want to see your Optimist Club in the Land of Lincoln Bulletin? Send your information to Nancy Roach-Wilder at [nroach12@gmail.com](mailto:nroach12@gmail.com) Watch for my email announcing the deadline for the next issue (the deadlines are also on the Illinois Optimist website <http://illinoisoptimist.org>) but go ahead and send me your club's information ANY time. I can't wait to see what everyone has been up to!

Action pictures of your club's activities are more fun to share with your fellow Optimists around Illinois, so keep that in mind when sending your information. Always include captions or a story to explain what your club has done. We will also publish information about your upcoming events – you never know who might show up if they know you have an activity going on.