

Illinois District Optimist Land of Lincoln Bulletin



November 2016

illinoisoptimist.org



Make your plans now to attend our January District Conference at The Chateau, 1621 Jumer Drive, Bloomington. All parrotheads welcome as we gather on January 20 & 21. Look for more information soon from Governor Ruth Del Re – she's promised fun and surprises for all who attend!

District Conference Highlights!

The October District Conference was a lot of fun for everyone who attended. Check out the pictures below and on page 8 of this Bulletin.



Halloween is all about the kids (no matter what age). Optimist members Jean Schmidt, James Patrick Schmidt, and Brandy Wren shared the fun of the District Conference with these future Optimists.

Pumpkin Races a Huge Success!

By Cathy Katz, Oswegoland Optimist

The Oswegoland Optimist Club's Annual Pumpkin Races this year did not disappoint! The town of Oswego and many of the surrounding communities packed the downtown district with characters of all kinds this year. Dressed for success, pumpkin race car entrants and their pumpkins provided fantastic entertainment for everyone attending...and all for a good cause. Canned goods were collected as entry fees from individuals, and businesses made a cash donation. The end result of all of this fun and excitement is the Family Christmas Project the club hosts in December, providing over 100 children and families in need with Christmas food, necessities, and gifts.



President Bryan Noble – great costume for the wheelchair bound!



Ron Elvin, official referee and grand pubah, checks for cheater pumpkin!

Greenville Optimist Scholarship Winners

By Larry Martin, Greenville Optimist



Don Reed, Optimist Club President, with Dominic Caldieraro, winner of the Greenville Optimist Club Scholarship



Ruth Wise is pictured with Mitchell Langham, winner of the Bill Wise Optimist Memorial Scholarship

Marshall-Clark County Celebrations

By Terry Wright, Lt. Governor



Lt. Gov. Terry Wright presenting certificate for sponsoring 10 new members to Donna Barth



Outgoing president, Lisa Richey, passing the gavel to incoming president, Art Miller



Officers and Board of Directors sworn in by Lt. Governor: Freda Noppert, Michael Sanger, Mary Lou Wernz, Lisa Richey, Art Miller, Linda Tucker, Christine Sanders, Donna Barth, Albert Tucker, Marilyn Lueken, Lt. Governor Terry Wright



Marilyn Lueken presenting "Optimist of the Year" to Tammy DePasse

Belleville Optimist Fashion Show and Farewell

By Jane Bonaldi, Belleville Optimist



2016-17 President **Jane Bonaldi** (standing) and Chairman **Afton Shambro** (seated) are pleased with the club's huge success at their first Fashion Show. The **Belleville Optimist Club** is looking forward to a repeat success with #2 in March 2017.



The women of the Optimist Club of Belleville bid farewell to member Kay Heim (2nd from the left) as she prepares to move to Florida.

District Poster Contest

By Charles Mayhew, Poster Contest Chair

Now is the time for your club to start preparing for the 2017 District Poster Contest! The information below provides the Rules for Entry and information on the Entry Form and process – please read this carefully to minimize confusion and guarantee a successful contest.

Rules for Entry

The Rules for Entry sheet indicates the rules that apply to the Illinois District Poster Contest. This rule sheet in its current format is not to be sent out to the schools. Each Optimist Club who wishes to participate in the contest shall incorporate the appropriate sections of the rules for the contest into their own rule sheet that lists their club Chairperson or Sponsor, the club due date and any awards, monetary or otherwise, the club wishes to present to the winners at the club level. Also this rule sheet should indicated when the club will announce and make the awards to the club level winners.

Entry Form

The Entry Form must be filled out fully and be attached to the back of the Boy's and Girl's posters the club wishes to enter in the District Level Contest. Please make sure that the Optimist Club name and gender are filled out correctly.

The posters with the attached Entry Form along with a check in the amount of \$10 per poster entered must be turned in to the District Poster Chair no later than 9:00 AM on April 29th. All District entry fees are to be paid by the local clubs - there is no cost to the students to enter the contest. Checks for entry fees are to be made out to: Illinois District - Optimist International.

Must be on the back of each poster submitted for judging

Illinois District Optimist Poster Contest 2017 – Entry Form

Name_____ Gender_____

Address_____

City_____ IL Zip_____

Phone No. _____ Grade _____

School _____ Teacher_____

Optimist Club Name _____

2017 - Illinois District Optimist Poster Contest

“Be a H.E.R.O. – Helping Everyone Respect Others”

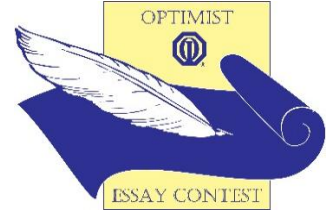
Rules for Entry

- Poster Contest is open to boys and girls in 4th, 5th & 6th grades.
- Two divisions - one for boys and one for girls.
- Each Club may submit one boy winner and one girl winner.
- Posters shall not have been entered in any previous Optimist Contest.
- Students are allowed to enter only one Optimist Club's Poster Contest.
- Posters must be on poster or illustration board and be horizontal - 14"high x22"wide and have a flat surface with no moving parts.
- Posters shall include only original artwork. No computer-generated pictures or wording are allowed. Poster designs may not incorporate any photographs, magazine or newspaper illustrations.
- Dark colors show best, and markers, paints, crayons and colored paper all work well on posters.
- The Contest slogan is: “Be a H.E.R.O. – Helping Everyone Respect Others”. THESE WORDS MUST BE ON THE FRONT OF EACH POSTER. Illustrations must be used in addition to words and must be related to the contest slogan.
- District winners will receive \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place. All entries will receive prize ribbons.
- Entry form must be attached to the back of each poster entered with the student's full name, gender, address, phone number, grade, school name, teacher's name and the name of the Optimist Club submitting the entry (entry forms to be provided).
- A \$10 District entry fee, paid by the local Optimist Club, must accompany each poster entered. Checks should be made out to: Illinois District – Optimist International.
- Posters will be judged at the Illinois District Third Quarter Conference on April 29th. Local Optimist Club's poster contests should be completed in time to bring your one winning boy's poster and one winning girl's poster to the District for judging.
- If no members of your Club are planning to attend the District Conference, contact your Lt. Governor or a Club near you to bring your poster contest entries. Please also arrange for someone to pick up the posters after the judging to return them to the local Club.

Any Questions – Please contact Poster Contest Chairperson – Charles Mayhew - (618) 806-5145 or charles.mayhew@sbcglobal.net



Affiliated with Optimist International



CONTACT
Connie Minnes
217-417-2734

November 2016

Optimist International Illinois District Essay Contest

Your local Optimist Club should be encouraging area students to compete in the "Chasing Optimism in the Face of Challenges" Optimist International Essay Contest for 2017.

Judges will evaluate the local winning essays, based on the theme of "Chasing Optimism in the Face of Challenges" and determine the top winner. The winning essay winner will be introduced at the district meeting on April 29 where he/she will read their essay.

Your winning club essay must be postmarked by February 28, 2017, accompanied by a check of \$25 to Illinois District Optimist, birth certificate and district entry form. These are to be mailed to:

Connie Minnes
Illinois District Essay Chair
19051 N Camino Del Sol
Sun City West, AZ 85375

Age limit: Youth under 18 as of October 1, 2016 who have not yet graduated from high school

Essay length: 700-800 words

Entry deadline: postmarked by February 28, 2017

Entry form: http://optimist.org/Forms/Essay_RULES_PAD-E_16-17.pdf

District entry form: on page 12 of http://optimist.org/Documents/Essay_District_Chair_16-17.pdf

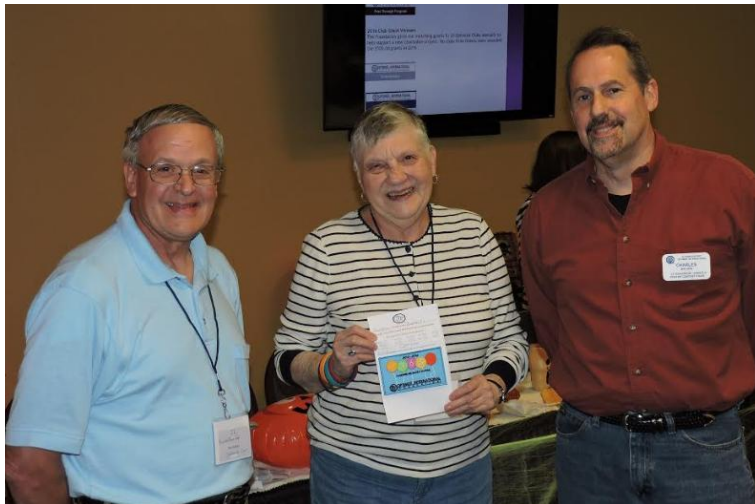
Illinois Award: \$2500 college scholarship

More Halloween Fun at District Conference



District Foundation Rep Presents 2015-16 Awards

Paul Hellrich, District Foundation Rep, presents 2015-16 Foundation awards for the 2015-16 Optimist year.



Belleville Optimist Club receives a print for a \$500 donation and a banner patch for the Dollar a Day program.

Dollar a Day patches were presented to these clubs:



Oswegoland – Ron Elvin



Silvis – James Patrick Schmidt



Sterling – Brandy Wren



Des Plaines – John Del Re

District Leadership Ready to Serve



Governor Ruth Del Re recognizes
Immediate Past Governor Steve Turner



Governor Ruth Del Re swearing in two new Lt. Governors



Members of the 2016-17 Optimist Leadership team, getting ready to start a wonderful year!

Congratulations to these Optimist clubs on their significant milestones:

Princeton	50 years	Chartered January 7, 1967
Rock Falls	70 years	Chartered February 24, 1947
Oswegoland	40 years	Chartered March 10, 1977



Coming Attractions:

3rd Quarter District Conference – Crazy Hat Theme, The Chateau, Bloomington - April 28-29
This meeting includes our Oratorical Contest, Poster Contest, and our Essay Contest Winner. You won't want to miss it!

Optimist International Convention – Albuquerque, NM - July 6-8
Find all the information at <http://www.optimist.org/e/Member/convention1.cfm>.

District Convention – Murder Mystery Event, The Chateau, Bloomington – August 4-6
Along with training and education, the murder mystery event will round out our year of fun events.

Want to see your Optimist Club in the Land of Lincoln Bulletin? It's simple – just email your pictures, with a story or captions, to Bulletin editor SchmidtSandi@gmail.com. It only takes a few minutes to share the great things your club is doing!

Action pictures of your club's activities are more fun to share with your fellow Optimists around the Illinois District, so keep that in mind when sending your information.

The deadline for the next issue of the Land of Lincoln Bulletin is **Friday, February 3**.