

The Southern Exposure



INDIANA SOUTH DISTRICT – OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Volume 16, Issue 4

July 2011

2010-2011

“Put the Pieces Together to Bring Out
the Best in Kids”

Kathy Underwood, Governor

Jim Arnold, Secretary-Treasurer

Sandi Holstein, Immediate Past
Governor

Tony Trimble, Past Governor

Chuck Curry, Governor Elect

Lt. Governors

Zone 1: **David Best**

Zone 2: **Phillip Hart**

Zone 3: **Linda Stein**

Zone 4/5: **Dennis Bialaszewski**

Zone 6: **Jim Gilbert**

Zone 7: **TBA**

Zone 8: **Betty Strickland**

Zone 9: **Frank J. Fowler**

Attention:

Committee Chairs & Lt Governors

The deadline for submitting articles for the next District Bulletin is **October 1, 2011**. Send your articles to p_grant@fastmail.fm if you have e-mail. If you prefer, send it snail-mail: 573 Horatio Drive, Avon, IN 46123.

DON'T FORGET!

From the Governor:

We are in the home stretch for the 2010-2011 Optimist Year. It is time again for the Indiana South District Convention. We will celebrate what we've accomplished so far, work toward a strong finish for this year, and prepare to start next year with a positive vision for 2011-2012.

This year's convention is in the fair city of Evansville from August 5-7th. The convention committee, headed by Larry Neisen, has been hard at work planning to make your stay memorable. Evansville is home of one Indiana South District's oldest clubs, Evansville Downtown, one of our newest clubs, Evansville Northside, and our very first full college club, USI. All these clubs are working together to make the convention a success. All we need is YOU!!!

We are privileged to welcome Immediate Past President Mark Shriver as our International representative. Past President Mark will be assisting Gov-Elect Chuck train next year's officers, certifying and preparing our next Gov-Elect, and sharing his experiences with all of us. The LDC has several learning opportunities planned, we'll be calling a WraP to our first District project, and both committees have worked together to plan some fun and relaxing events to just unwind and enjoy our Optimist friends.

Our Live OI Foundation Auction is back again

this year!!! District Foundation Rep Dave Kirkman needs your donations for a successful event. Dave is 3rd in International in total contributions collected and 3rd in the amount contributed per member. Let's put Dave over the top with this auction!!! Wouldn't it be great to have at least one item for auction from each club? Want your club to stand out above the rest? Which club can contribute the most memorable auction item or bring the most in bids??? Put your thinking caps on!! Got ideas or questions? Call Dave at 317-292-9939 or email at davidkirkman@comcast.net.

The executive team will be voting on the nominations for the Humanitarian and Distinguished Optimist of the Year, as well as the Boo-Boo Award on Friday, August 5th. Get your nominations to Heather Williams to be considered for this prestigious recognition. Heather's address is 8012 Manor Dr, Lanesville, IN 47136, phone - 812-952-3343, or contact her through email at kathywilliams1@insightbb.com. Remember, by nominating a member for one of these awards, your club will earn a piece of the puzzle.

The Award winners will be announced at the Governor's Banquet on Saturday night. As we honor and celebrate our accomplishments this year, we'll also look forward to next year as Past President Mark inducts the 2011-12 Executive Team. We'll enjoy some entertainment to finish off the evening and send us to bed with sweet melodies.

A memorial service will be held to remember our Optimist friends who have passed on after members have had the chance to attend Sunday services of their choice. Make sure that no one is inadvertently forgotten by emailing Jim Arnold, District Secretary/Treasurer. at papawarnold@tds.net of those persons you know have been lost from our midst.

And finally, one last thought. I want to see all our clubs finish the year strong. There have been some great accomplishments this year, from new clubs to awesome youth projects and fundraisers. Though we do this for the kids, OI recognizes clubs which have contributed to the international goals. We don't do this for the awards, but it is an important part of our organization to recognize our clubs with honored and distinguished status, as well as the officers of the clubs and district who have "made it so". Please review the requirements for making your club honor or even distinguished. I can tell you that there are many clubs that are on the verge - there are still 90 days to make it happen!! I couldn't be prouder than to show my fellow governors just how vital Indiana South district is. Please help me make it happen!!!

Governor Kathy





INDIANA SOUTH DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

2010-2011



Time to Celebrate and Learn!!

There are just over 100 days left in the 2010-2011 Optimist Year. It is time to look forward to the 4th Quarter Indiana South District Convention. We will celebrate what we've accomplished so far, work toward a strong finish for this year, and prepare to start next year with a positive vision for 2011-2012.

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INDIANA SOUTH DISTRICT OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

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The convention will close with one more look at Darryl's Digital Diary on Sunday morning. So don't leave early, you won't want to miss it.

A block of rooms at \$70.00 per night have been set aside for this event at the Clarion Inn (formerly Holiday Inn and Conference Center) for Friday and Saturday nights. A few rooms are also available on Thursday night at this special rate for anyone who would like to come in the night before. To guarantee room availability and rate, please reserve your room no later than July 14th. Call (812) 424-6400 to reserve your room in the Indiana South District Optimist International Convention block.

The program is currently being finalized and will be available in the near future on the district website at www.optimistindiana.org/news. Please keep checking the website for updates.

Remember, the District conferences are for all Optimist members. Please distribute this letter and registration form to all members of your club.

We want to see you in Evansville as we celebrate our successes in **Putting the Pieces Together** to Bring Out the Best in Kids!!!

Kathy Underwood, Governor
Indiana South District, OI
7 Spotted Owl Drive
Brownsburg, IN 46112-8865
317-852-1917

Jim Arnold, Sec./Treas.
Indiana South District, OI
3548 S. CR 101 East
Clayton, IN. 46118-9660
317-539-6662

The correct address of the hotel is 4101 Highway 41 N Not State Road 41 N.

Past Governors' Breakfast

The PGA breakfast at the Convention in Evansville will be on Sunday, August 7th, from 8:15-9 a.m. The Breakfast will be held in Room #4, which is the last room on the right (if you are facing the correct way). The rooms are not numbered, but the closing of the Convention will be in Rooms 1 and 2, so we should have no problem getting to the right place.

Remember too that spouses are invited to attend the Breakfast as in the past. We will not have a lot of time, but if there is something you would like to have discussed, please let me know. As always, we will vote to name our current Governor (Gov. Kathy) as the leader of the PGA for the year 2011-12.

Breakfast guests will include OI Past President Mark Shriver and his wife, as well as our incoming Governor Chuck and his wife Cheryl.

Looking forward to seeing you in Evansville!

Sandi Holstein, IPG

**2010- 2011
Indiana South District Meetings**

4th Quarter: **Convention.....Aug 5 - 7, 2011** [Clarion Inn Hotel and Convention Center](#)

Newest Club in Indiana South District

Indiana South District is proud to announce another community is being served by Optimism. The Ryves Community Optimist Club in Terre Haute was chartered on Tuesday June 14th, 2011 with 30 charter members (and more to come). Builders of Excellence are: Dennis Bialeszewski, Marsha Bialeszewski, Mark Wilson and Kathy Underwood. That means another 1,050 youth will be served in Indiana South District! With the other three new Optimist Clubs in Indiana South during the 2010-2011 Optimist year, Indiana South can proudly proclaim there are 3,500 kids whose lives will be touched by Optimist International in 2011 and beyond.

We still have 3 months to go in the 2010-2011 Optimist year. We can build more clubs to touch the lives of more youth. Just call me and I will help any way I can! It truly does not take long to build a club! Ryves Community was built in 6 weeks from vision to organization. Governor Kathy and her team continue to "Put the pieces together to serve more youth!"

Will you help?

Mike Underwood

Do you have any Extra supplies?

We are collecting any additional supplies that anyone may have in their barn, house, garage or under their bed. These supplies include, but are not necessarily related to, extra bells, banners, gavels, etc.

We as a district want to consolidate and inventory these assets so that future clubs and the district will not have to purchase items we already have.

Please bring any supplies that you have to the District Convention in Evansville and give them to Chuck Curry. Your help in this will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, Chuck can be reached at 317-225-6884. If no answer, please leave a message.

Once again, thank you for your support of the Indiana South District of Optimist International.

Optimist International Foundation report

Wow, it's July already and the Foundation is as strong as ever. Indiana South is 3rd in the organization both in total funds raised and total per member. I really want to thank those folks who have given. Greensburg and Clay County Breakfast are to be commended for their efforts. Special thanks go to Harold and Minny for their never ending efforts to reflect the importance of the Optimist International Foundation.

July's goal is Club gifts. Each Club is asked to donate an unrestricted amount of \$365. For this donation a Club will receive the '365' 2010-2011 Banner Patch to be proudly displayed on the Club Award Banner. Your \$365 donation does make a difference as 20 Grants to Clubs were awarded for new charitable projects in 2010. Did you know that all Club services are at no cost to Clubs? Clubs giving at least \$365 unrestricted can cast one vote in OIF board election. Your \$365 donation also makes available the Club Pass Through Program. The Indiana South Foundation Goal for Club gifts is to find 20 Clubs willing to help the Foundation provide the needed services to all of Optimist International. Would your Club consider being one of the 20? Don't forget, gifts of \$500.00 or more also receives the Optimist Print.

We witnessed a great Oratorical Contest and a great Essay contest at the 3rd quarter meeting. The Optimist Foundation funds the winner's scholarships from your donations.

The Indiana South District Convention is scheduled for August 5-7 in Evansville. Please plan to attend and please bring with you items for the Foundation Auction. We once again will have assistance from members of the Fishers Optimist Club.

I can't stress enough the importance of your donations to the Foundation. The Optimist International Foundation does so much for our Clubs and for the children we serve. That is why you can participate in many ways. You can be a Century Circle Member, a member of the Women's Philanthropy Council, your club can provide new Scholarships. You can be a Presidents Club Member for only \$100.00. You can honor a fellow long serving Optimist with the Christian D. Larson award, or be a Member of the Executives Club for \$1000.00 donation. As described above, your club can be honored with a '365' Banner patch for a club gift of \$365.00 or more. Finally, all individual Club Members can support the Optimist International Foundation by donating a Dime-A-Day.....that's \$36.50. How easy is this?

The Optimist International Foundation: Optimists Helping Optimists Help Kids.

Please consider your donation to the Optimist International Foundation. We cannot say NO to the children we serve.

Thank you!

David Kirkman, Indiana South District Foundation Representative



Activities and Achievements (A&A Form)

Hey everyone, the clock is ticking on the A&A form needs to be filed by July 10. If you have any problems with filling in the form, call or email me. If your club has not filed any of the past A&A's please contact me and let me help you update your form so we can get your CLUB into the BANNER PATCH PROGRAM. The only way we can recognize your club is with the information from the A&A form. Kathy R. Williams kathywilliams1@insightbb.com or home: 812-952-3354.

International Convention Report

This year Indiana South had 17 members and guests attending the 93rd International Convention in Baltimore.

Indiana South was represented by the following:

Charles & Cheryl Curry, Harold Kitzmann, Gerald & Dorothy Lawrence, John & Carolyn Reel, Paula Reyling, Jerry & Beth Schue, Bill & Patricia Scott, Bob & Joyce Thompson, Michael & Kathryn Underwood, and Michael Woodward

The training offered was the best of Optimist International. There were several sessions from training for Governor Elects, Lt Governor Elects, District Foundation Representative elects, and over twelve other training courses by the best trainers.

Plan on attending the 2012 convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 12-14.

Bob Thompson, International Convention Ambassador

Announcing!!!
Ryves Community Optimist Club



June 14, 2011

Puzzlemasters:

Dennis Bialaszewski, Clay County/Ryves Community
Marsha Bialaszewski, Clay County/Ryves Community
Kathy Underwood, Plainfield
Mark Wilson, North Vermillion

RYVES COMMUNITY OPTIMIST CLUB



Organizer hopes club can help kids, community

Howard Greninger, The Tribune-Star

TERRE HAUTE — A Terre Haute Optimist member hopes to charter a new club focused on one goal — helping Ryves Hall Youth Center.

An organizational meeting for the club, likely to be named the Ryves Optimist Club, will be held at 6:30 p.m. today in the cafeteria at Ryves Hall, 1356 Locust St. Charter members will be established at the meeting.

“Ryves is in a depressed neighborhood, and 95 percent of the children being served are under the poverty level with some of them being homeless,” said Dennis Bialaszewski, a former lieutenant governor of the Indiana South District-Optimist International and a member of the Terre Haute Noon Optimist Club.

“The new club is to meet monthly, not with an emphasis on socialization, but on collecting ideas for projects and completing those projects,” Bialaszewski said. “Many of the Optimist clubs try to serve multi-purposes. This club will have a singular purpose to help with the attendees of the Ryves Youth Center and spill over to help the needs of the neighborhood also.”

An initial application fee of \$40 will be collected to become a charter member. Indiana South District-Optimist International governor Kathy Underwood will be present at the organizational meeting as new officers will be nominated and selected, as well as time and day of future meetings.

Bialaszewski served as a past chairman of a Clothe-A-Child drive for the Noon Optimist Club, which clothed more than 700 children. He said a previous drive had “about 150 names supplied by health professionals of students who qualified who did not show up for the drive and could not attend.”

“Why did they not attend? There are several reasons. Some come from homeless families, some come from families without cars and some maybe could not afford the gas,” Bialaszewski said. “There is just so much to be done. The Ryves neighborhood is so depressed and with children in such need, I think there needs to be a club with a singular purpose.”

A meeting on May 25 was held to see if there was sufficient interest for the club, Bialaszewski said. The North Vermilion Optimist Club and Plainfield Optimist Club will be the two sponsoring clubs for the start-up Ryves club, Bialaszewski said.

“Ryves provides educational opportunities and recreational opportunities and they feed the children,” he said. “Many other Optimist clubs help Ryves Hall and they should get credit for doing that. I am not trying to cut off any support currently given to Ryves,” just add to its support, Bialaszewski said.

The new club can start on several projects, Bialaszewski said, such as seeking a grant for a reading program for kindergarten to third-grade students; getting a new sound system for the center; and paying for players to participate in a regional tri-sports event, such as a pass-dribble-shoot contest.

He also hopes to start an activity such as a project called; “Avenue of the Flags,” where the club buys U.S. flags, then rents them out to businesses or individuals for a set fee. Volunteers put out the flags on certain days, such as Flag Day or Fourth of July, then picks them back up after several days.

“It can instill patriotism into the Ryves youth,” he said.

Bialaszewski will remain a member of the Noon Optimist Club, as optimists can be members in multiple clubs. His wife, Marsha, a member of the Clay County Optimist Club, also will be a member of the new club.

Bialaszewski is a professor of management information systems at Indiana State University, where he has served for 27 years. He is also director of Alpha Iota Mu, a management information systems honor society. He is also on the state board of directors of the Indiana Thoroughbred Breeders and Owners Association.

The Ryves Community Optimist club now exists. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday - June 14th and we will start with 33 CHARTER members. The purpose of this club is to help the children of the Ryves community ... 95% of the children serviced by Ryves are under the poverty level with some of them being homeless. This new club has a singular purpose and expects to be a hands on club while also hoping to obtain monetary support. Because many of us are quite busy our club will limit meetings to monthly meeting while setting up several committees to plan projects for the area youth.

Our charter party is scheduled for August 9th and plans are to hold it right at Ryves. Ryves serves food to the needy in our area and they will provide the meal at our Charter Party.

Our first visible event in the area was a great success as many club members attended the Ryves Neighborhood Association Block Party. We demonstrated a visible presence in the area and raffled (at no cost) several pairs of tickets to the Terre Haute Rex Baseball games.

Dennis and Marsha represented the club at a "Ryves K through 3 Reading Grant" meeting that was held on Monday - June 27th. Some very good Indiana State students are in the process of developing a home page for the new Ryves club and several projects are in the planning stages ... and it is all FOR THE KIDS!!!

What's happening in Plainfield!

4/21/2011. Partners in Education Award Winners.



Breakfast Optimist Club of Indianapolis Oratorical Winner



Danny Rodgers, President of Optimist International presented Caroline her winning plaque and her \$2,500 college scholarship at the District Conference held April 30th.

CPA Books You still have till September 30, 2011 to get your project info together and mail your entry. All entries must be to me by September 30 so they can be judged and sent to OI. Please mail your books to Kathy R Williams, 8012 Manor Drive, Lanesville, IN 47130. If you need any help my email is kathywilliams!@insightbb.com.

To A Beautiful Person

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it. If He had a wallet, your photo would be in it.

He sends you flowers every spring.

He sends you a sunrise every morning.

Whenever you want to talk, He listens.

He can live anywhere in the universe, but He chose your heart.

Face it friend, He is crazy about you!

God didn't promise days without pain, Laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.

Build a JOOI Club in Your Community.

Optimist Youth Clubs-JOOI Clubs-provide fun, fellowship and community service learning opportunities for youth of all ages. Younger students (grades 1-4) take part in Alpha Clubs. Middle school or junior high students can join Junior Optimist Clubs, and high school students build Octagon Clubs.

JOOI members want to make the world a better place. Youth Clubs actively involve themselves in their communities, just as their adult clubs do. From fund-raising to neighborhood clean-ups to tutoring younger kids, JOOI members make things happen. Currently there are more than 15,500 youth members in more than 600 communities.

For your Optimist Club, a JOOI Youth Club sponsorship offers:

- Lots of eager hands to help with your larger service projects and fund-raisers.
- A means to rejuvenate interest in your club's activities.
- A unique way to involve a club member's whole family in Optimism.
- Membership recruitment of the parents and relatives of your Youth Club members and much more.

How to Start a JOOI Club

You may charter a JOOI Club with only eight JOOI Members. There is a one-time enrollment fee of \$50, an annual registration fee of \$60 and membership dues are as follows: \$8 per member per year for Alpha Clubs and \$10 per member per year for Junior Optimist and Octagon Clubs. The registration and member fees are prorated depending on the month you charter the JOOI Club. Also, JOOI Clubs are only required to pay for the first 50 members.

If you have any questions on how to start a JOOI Club in your community you can e-mail me at minovak@msn.com or call me at 812-663-3266.

Mike Novak

JOOI District Chairman
Advisor of the Octagon Club-Greensburg High School

NEW ALBANY OPTIMIST CLUB

The New Albany Optimist Club would like to congratulate our club's Regional finalist for their effort. Ryan Shipton, Oratorical Contest and Rachel Sieg, Essay Contest. Tony Trimble, Essay Chair presented Rachel with her second place plaque at the New Albany Optimist Club's charter party.

Scrapbooks

The year is coming to a close and we are looking for scrapbooks to show what your club did this year. Will your club be the winner? Showcase your club. You can do your scrapbook the old fashion way, or you can fashion an electronic one. All entries must be completed by the first district meeting in November. Contact Beth Grube for Scrapbook outline at eaquarius@sbcglobal.net or 812-944-7844, 502-447-3903

Special Awards

Hear Yeah, Hear Yeah, calling all clubs to choose the following: District Distinguished Optimist of the Year, District Humanitarian of the Year, and yes the District Boo-Boo Award. You can find the forms on the IN South District Homepage. All entries must be to me by August 1, 2011. Need help contact ME, Heather Williams email: dragoncat@insightbb.com or call my home 812-952-3343. Looking forward to those nominations!!!!

President Pride Award

President's make sure you submit your club for the President's Pride Award. The form is on the OI Website. You must have it to OI by Sept. 30, 2011. This is also a requirement for honor club. You can fill the form out now. Don't wait. Any questions contact: Kathy Williams, Programs Chair. kathywilliams1@insightbb.com or call 812-952-3343

Hanover Respect for Law Camp

This year the Respect for Law Camp held at Hanover College was full of 46 excited campers. The camp was held June 23-25. Thanks to the efforts of the local optimist clubs. It was a success. The excitement was not only felt by the campers but the local clubs. Jeffersonville Breakfast, Jeffersonville Evening, Jeffersonville Falls Cities, New Albany, Georgetown and Greensburg.

They all contributed to the meals, camper sponsorships, and helping work the camp. We fed them a Pizza dinner on Thursday night. Friday we served up Sub sandwich's at the swim trip to Clifty Falls State Park and when the weather turned our young camper's into blue smurfs, we went back to Hanover where we had a great optimist cook-out complete with marshmallows.

Friday night we had a dance complete with a police Sgt as our DJ. Campers, staff and Optimists helped Camp Director, Chris Clancey celebrate his 42nd birthday with song, cards and a blue cupcake in the face, thanks to his lovely wife. So we now had a Papa Smurf with a chicken hat dancing to the Chicken Polka. What a sight to behold. Then on Saturday, the Optimists hosted a short reception for the families of the campers after the graduation ceremonies. Campers, Optimists and Camp Staff all bid farewells to each other at the closing ceremonies held at the Flag Pole. Another wonderful Respect for Law Camp came to a wonderful close with everyone looking forward to next year's camp.

Special Thanks: The Staff of the Hanover Respect for Law Camp want to thank all the Optimists for helping with this year's camp. We could not do it without your support. Camp Director: Chris Clancey

Attention ALL Club Presidents

Presidents of all Clubs in the District serve as members of the District Board of Directors. Make sure to attend your Board meeting.

The Southern Exposure is published for all Optimists located in the Indiana South District, Optimist International. The editor is Paul R. Grant, 573 Horatio Drive, Avon, IN 46123. Submissions may be sent to p_grant@fastmail.fm and are subject to extreme editing.

Club Presidents: Please make copies of this Bulletin and distribute to the members of your club.

