

Optimist

Summer 2022



Optimism
Better Together





Celebrate Community 2022

Celebrate Community, an annual joint initiative from the service organizations Kiwanis International, Lions International, Optimist International and Rotary International, will take place the week of September 11-17, 2022.

We encourage clubs and youth programs around the world to work together on projects during September 11-17.

Share photos on your social channels with the hashtag [#CelebrateCommunity](#)

Together, we can do more good!

Resources

- Read the [Press Release](#)
- Join the [Facebook Event](#) page
- Watch the [Celebrate Community video](#)

To get started, find a club in your area:



MISSION STATEMENT

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves.

VISION STATEMENT

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the first volunteer organization that values all children and helps them develop to their full potential.

PURPOSES OF OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed; To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs; To inspire respect for the law; To promote patriotism and work for international agreement and friendship among all people; To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life, and the world.

THE OPTIMIST CREED

Promise Yourself-

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness, and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



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Optimist

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September – New beginnings, A Fresh Start, Cleaning the campsite

September marks the first month of fall in the northern half of the world, where leaves begin to change colors, and the first month of spring in the southern half, where flowers start to bloom. Around the world – there are holidays, festivals, observances, national days, food days, and celebrations in September: Royal Canadian Air Force Day, Labor Day/Patriot Day, International Day of Peace, and yes - International Day of Chocolate (September 13th.) It marks the start of a new school year in most countries. Students return from their summer break with a fresh start, new clothes, books, teachers, and the challenges of entering a higher grade.

As we enter the last month of this Optimist administrative year, I remind you of the importance of the [Purposes of Optimist International](#).

September is the time to renew our Optimism, strengthen our Clubs, and reach out to new communities so that we may expand our positive influence on youth, our communities, and ourselves. It's time to take charge, get inspired, tackle all those goals you've been "getting around to," and clean up our campsite.

Following are a few reminders:

- This year, "[Celebrate Community](#)" will be held during the week of September 11-17, 2022.
- The traditional way for an Optimist Club to measure its success is to become an [Honor Club](#). This recognition proves your Optimist Club is doing everything it can to leave a positive legacy. Take the final steps now to make Honor Club.

- Make a commitment to yourself and your Club to invite a guest to a Club gathering in the next 20 days. Once they see the value in your Club, they will want to be part of it.
- Presidential Incentive: [212:One Degree More..](#) Even though 211 degrees is extremely hot, the steam engine needs one more degree to move. Until it hits 212 it's not going anywhere. It's time to turn up the heat! One degree More in Optimism makes a HUGE difference!

At the first Part of this administrative year – I shared with every Member a little about [The Optimist Power](#). The Power of the words written on a small bookmark – the Optimist creed, and the Purposes of Optimist International. I pass these bookmarks everywhere I go in my travels.

Executive Director Cheryl and I attended the Leadership Summit at Rotary Headquarters in Evanston, Chicago - with Organization Presidents, Executive Directors, and staff from the Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, and Optimists. We discussed our challenges, successes, differences, structures, and serving together during Celebrate Community week.

While on a 4-hour wait back home in the Chicago O'Hare Admirals Club, I spoke with two couples sitting next to me. One of the ladies asked me about the Logo on my green shirt. My elevator speech kicked in with conversation leading to the conference I had attended piquing their interest. Their small community is represented by Clubs from all four organizations. I passed out bookmarks and discussed the Optimist Creed and Purposes.

The conversation ended as we turned back to computers and our own world. About 15 minutes later, one of the men sitting next to me tapped me on the shoulder: "Are you, Patsy Garner?" After replying yes, he said – "You are the President of Optimist International." I feel positive that the little bookmark created a bit of Optimism in the busy Chicago O'Hare airport and will be shared in a small town in Illinois.

Together – we have been good campers. We did the hard things that are also the right things, fixed things that needed fixing, and addressed processes that will provide more than a short-term focus. No one is perfect, and there's always loads left to be done, but as good campers, we leave behind stronger Clubs and a stronger Organization than when we first entered.

20 more days - to reach the goal of +212. Spreading Optimism! First gentleman Ken and I want to thank every one of you for making the decision to be an Optimist. It has been an honor to serve with you – beside you in Optimism. We are truly – better together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patsy Garner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the name.

Patsy Garner
International President 2021-22

Calendar of Events

A look at what's coming up for Optimist International



SEPTEMBER

- Celebrate Community, Sept. 11-17
- International Day of Charity
- Deadline to submit Club Pride Report
- National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- Closing of the Optimist Year
- President Patsy Year-End Celebration

Optimist Institute

We have launched the Optimist Institute (formerly known as the LMS). It is currently available for all Optimist Members to subscribe to the quickly growing content!

In addition to the annual Club Officer Courses, the Optimist Institute will offer courses in:

- leadership development
- technology (with focus on Microsoft Office products and social media to help your Club!)
- optimism
- youth and sports
- Optimist sponsored programs
- personal development skills
- diversity

In addition to the topics above, the Optimist Personal Development Program (PDP) can be completed through the Optimist Institute.

The Optimist Institute also offers videos, recorded webinars, and motivational blog posts! The content will grow and can serve as a great resource and learning tool for all Optimist Members!

The current subscription fee is just \$25 for a 12-month subscription, and it is renewable annually. Anyone that had an account in the LMS, that account has been rolled over into the Optimist Institute – all you need to do is login with your username (which is your email address) and your password. Once logged in, you can add a new subscription to your account, and you'll have access to all current content as well as the content that is coming soon!





Local Charity Benefits from Reno Convention

The Optimist International Inaugural Toss for a Cause Tournament launched at the Reno Convention. Chris Bennett from South Carolina won 1st place in the Competitive Bracket and the team of Chuck Sawyer from California and Dan Mills from Michigan won 1st place in the Recreational Tournament Bracket. The International Programs and Projects Committee would like to give a shout out to West Missouri Governor, Eric Brockus, for directing the Tournament and also for driving the Cornhole boards and bags to Reno. A huge thank you to the Optimist Club of Marshall and Adrian Missouri for letting us borrow their boards to make this Tournament a success!

Net proceeds of \$5,000 from the Tournament were donated to Safe Embrace, a local charity in Reno that is committed to ending the cycle of domestic and sexual violence with innovative prevention and intervention services. Thank you to the Optimist International Foundation, competitors, and individuals that donated for this special cause.



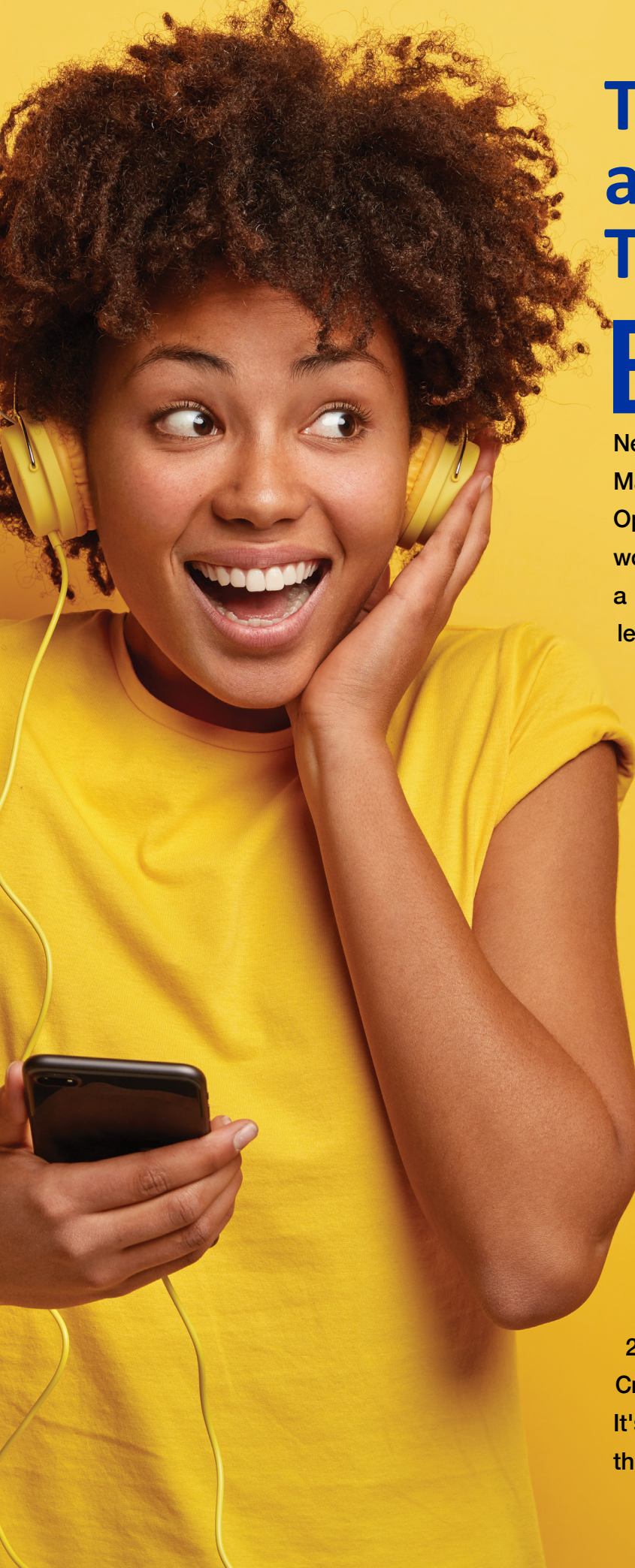
Miche Brister and her husband Suchan accept the check on behalf of Safe Embrace from Optimist International President Patsy Garner and Optimist International Foundation President Marc Katz.



Step Up and Lead

Our Leadership Development Committee is taking this opportunity to ask you to serve your Club and Community by stepping up. If you are asked to take a position in your Club next Spring, when it is time for Club Officer Elections, go for it! We promise that there will be help available to you at the exciting training sessions at next year's

convention in Arlington, VA. Come on out and enjoy, learn, and make new friends. If we are interested in our Clubs continuing, we need to add to our Leadership Pool today! If you think about it in advance of your Club Meeting, you won't be surprised if asked when you get there!



Turned On and Tuned In To Optimism!

Big and exciting things happened at the 104th International Convention June 30 - July 3, 2022 in Reno, Nevada at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino. Many came to get turned on and tuned in to Optimism like never before! The playlist of workshops were crafted to help you become a more energized and effective Optimist leader at every level in our organization.

Attendees dialed in to a variety of workshops on conflict resolution, networking, childhood wellness, utilizing social media platforms, how to better utilize our Learning Management System, and a whole lot more!



Did you miss this fantastic event!? No worries, you can attend next year July 2-5, 2023 in Arlington, VA at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City near Reagan International Airport. It's an investment in yourself and you'll have the time of your life!

Optimist International 104th Annual Convention



Rediscovered, Reconnected, Re-Energized, Reno

Days prior to the convention, the International Board of Directors met and worked diligently through their agenda. [Click here](#) to review the summary of board actions.

Some Convention Highlights

- Ribbon Cutting with President Patsy and President Designate Bob McFadyen
- Training sessions and workshops
- First Timers Orientation – see you next year in Arlington at your second convention!
- Wm. H Harrison Reception and Welcome Celebration at the National Bowling Stadium
- Some of the Highlights from the General Sessions
 - o Keynote speaker Scott LeRette!
 - Thank you to the Optimist International Foundation for sponsoring
 - o President Patsy Garner's leadership and closing remarks
 - o President Designate Bob McFadyen's remarks
- Town Hall and Business Session
 - o [Click here](#) to review the outcomes.
- Heritage of Optimism Brunch at the National Automobile Museum to honor our Past International Presidents
- Trivia Night
 - o Congratulations to 'Team Steve', Members from multiple Districts, who won at Trivia. The 50/50 drawing was won by Tracey Hamilton from the Michigan District. Congratulations to Tracey for winning over \$700.
- The President's Banquet and Ball with guests of honor President Patsy Garner and First Gentleman Past International President Ken.



1. Priya Ahlawat, JS Parker, Ricci Rodriguez, Steve Seeds, and Mary Santiano at the Reno Optimist Club welcome desk 2. President Patsy Garner and President-Elect Bob McFadyen 3. House of Optimism opening 4. Mike Mona and Nicole Powell giving it their all at the Cornhole Tournament 5. Austin "Auzman" gives a thumbs up at his father's, Keynote Speaker Scott LeRette's Book Signing. 6. Optimist Members Lister Florence, Jo Paul, Peggy Ingle, and Jennifer Kendo enjoying the interaction at one of the workshops.

A shout out to the International Leaders and Volunteers that helped make the International Convention in Reno a huge success.

International Convention Chair Michael Goldman, The Reno Host Area Committee lead by Priya Ahlawat and Robert Wright, 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Leadership Development Committee Chairs Marlene Phillips and Deanna Morrow respectively, Credentials Committee Chair Al Clark, Governance Committee Chair and Decorations Supervisor Sandy Larivee, Lead Sergeant Dwight Phillips, Cornhole Coordinator Eric Brockus and, Backstage Coordinator Zeke Potter

Thank you! It would not have been possible without you.

Dear members of the Optimist Clubs in Canada

Much has happened at the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation in the last several months!

- On December 30th, the CCOF moved into its new office! We are now located on 700-1310 Greene Avenue, Westmount, Quebec H3Z 2B2.
- After many months of searching, we hired a part-time Executive Assistant in January 2022. I am confident that you enjoyed dealing with Vanesa Jerez.
- After many years with the Foundation, Stephen Pollock our Accountant has moved on. His role is now in the hands of TFCI Outsourced Bookkeeping Services (Giovanni Tomat).
- Linda Loranger, our Executive Director since November 30, 2020, departed on March 25, 2022.

Please join us in welcoming André Michelet-Figueroa as our Executive Director effective July 4, 2022. André joins the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation (CCOF) following five years as General Director of the Children of Ecuador Foundation. André holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and a Master's degree in Collective and International Management.

CCOF is pleased that André is joining our team. We look forward to his leadership, his heart-felt devotion to helping people and his personal commitment to the non-profit sector of society. Through a spirit of collaboration and teamwork, CCOF and André will take our foundation to new levels of service to Canadian Optimist clubs, and the young people of their communities.

- The Board met on March 14, and 15. The AGM was held on March 15th.
- CCOF's 2020-21 financial statements have been finalized and are posted on our website!

I would like to reassure all our Optimist Clubs and Members that the CCOF is doing well despite the lingering effects of the pandemic! For instance, the Foundation ended 2020-21 in a sound financial position, due to our prudent investment strategies under the care of our Financial Advisor and his team at RBC.

During the March Board of Directors' meeting, we approved a revised mission statement that we feel



DIANNE JOSLING

2021-2022 President, CCOF

better reflects today's reality. I am happy to share it with you: **Investing today for the future of our youth by seeking and managing funds through collaboration with Canadian Optimist Clubs and their communities, by supporting clubs to create opportunities that will enhance quality of life, improve health and wellness, and inspire our youth.**

The Board of Directors is committed to do everything in its power to ensure the Foundation remains healthy and that operations are maintained.

We are also proud to say that we have a strong governance structure with a Governance Committee and a Finance Committee. The Governance Committee has started working on a Strategic Plan. We thank all DFRs and CFRs and Past Presidents who have taken the time to answer our survey. We will share the report with everyone as soon as possible.

Dear Optimist friends, we know how much of your heart is in the Foundation. Jean-Claude St-Onge, Past President, Ann Richer-Doyle, President Elect, Tim Bell and Les Trevor, Directors, and I appreciate your never-ending support. We are also happy to announce the appointment of Sylvain Ménard from Sector 52 (Quebec South) of Optimistes Francophones Canadiens who will replace Jean-Claude as of October 1, 2022.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dianne Josling'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, prominent 'D'.

Dianne Josling

2021-2022 President,
Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation

“

**Investing
today in the
future of our
youth”**



JEAN-CLAUDE ST-ONGE
2020-2021 President, CCOF

Dear friends of the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation,

During the 2020-2021 fiscal year many of you have made a donation to the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation. On behalf of myself and the members of the 2020-2021 Board of Directors, we would like to thank you for your generous donations. This financial participation has allowed us to strengthen our action with our youth within our Canadian communities.

For the past two years, we have had to overcome great obstacles, such as the pandemic that we have experienced and are still experiencing, but thanks to important collaborators like you, we have been able to continue the mission of our foundation and we thank you greatly.

We would like to recognize the work of our DFRs who represent the Foundation within their district. More specifically, we would like to recognize the efforts of the following DFRs who have made the Distinguished Level:

- **Peter Smith (PNW)**
- **Donna Suggitt (DMM)**
- **John and Joanne Sanders (SWONT)**
- **Warren Bechthold and Jim Pipe (MWONT)**
- **Gordon and Barbara Holly (CENON)**
- **Yvon Quesnel and Sylvain Couturier (EONT)**
- **Ronald Rhéaume and Nathalie Gravel (QUCE)**
- **Robert Perron and Danielle Dupont (QUWE)**
- **Sylvain Ménard (QUSUD)**
- **François Larouche and Vallier Côté (DEQA)**

In addition, we would like to recognize **Edie Harris (AMS&NW)** who has reached Outstanding DFR Level!

Accept my sincere thanks on behalf of your board of directors. We are including results of our top achievers but please do not forget that every dollar received did and does count.

Jean-Claude St-Onge
2020-2021 President, Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation

Collaboration Allows for Innovative Partnerships to Flourish!

In September 2018, the first Optimist Club dedicated to the LGBT2Q+ community and their allies was chartered. The Rainbow Optimist Club – Southwestern Ontario is committed to bettering the lives of LGBT2Q+ rural youth, their families, and their communities in Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford Counties (Ontario).

Since its inception, the Club has received incredible support from both corporate and non-profit partners in the community, receiving over \$46,000 in outside funding. Working directly with the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation, they have leveraged both CCOF's Outsourcing Program and their Designated Club Grant Program to further their impact through three significant program offerings:



Drag Storytime

Through the performance art of Drag, the Rainbow Optimist Club produces Drag Storytimes. The Drag Storytimes are a unique way to engage children

in learning about inclusion and diversity through reading a selection of carefully curated books by five library partners throughout the region: Elgin County, Middlesex County, Oxford County, St. Thomas Public Library and Woodstock Public Library.

The live Drag Storytime was seen by 1028+ children, parents and caregivers across Southwestern Ontario before moving to Virtual Drag Storytimes which has been viewed over 17,500+ times worldwide.

TD Bank gave \$14,000.00 in support of this project and other programming offered by the Club. All funds received from TD Bank went through the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation (CCOF) as an Outsourcing Program and a Designated Club Grant.





Creating Safer Spaces for LGBT2Q+ Communities Workshop

The Rainbow Optimist Club offers this original workshop for individuals, community organizations and businesses. The goal is to teach people how to create a safer space, a space where people can find themselves represented and reflected, and where they understand that all people are treated with respect and dignity.

The Rainbow Optimist Club received a grant from United Way Elgin Middlesex (UWEM) funded by the Government of Canada for \$31,275 to create this program and again, working with the CCOF as an Outsourcing Agreement.

Rainbow Speakers Panel

The Rainbow Optimist Club offers a unique opportunity for rural communities to hear directly from members of LGBT2Q+ communities through the Rainbow Speakers Panels. The panels are designed with a focus on LGBT2Q+ teens,

but all are welcome. These panels feature individuals who live and work in local communities and identify within the LGBT2Q+ community. Panel topics included career choices, life lessons learned, and first-hand experience of living in their community.

Both The United Way Elgin Middlesex funding and TD Bank's continued support supplied funds for this program which was delivered 6 times virtually during such occasions and events as Mental Health Week, Strathroy Pride and Elgin County Pride, and even on National Indigenous Peoples Day.



It's clear that both National and Provincial institutions see the value in the work done by the Rainbow Optimist Club – Southwestern Ontario and their partnership with Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation has allowed the Club to continue to make a positive impact in their community.

Interested in learning more about the Rainbow Optimist Club – Southwestern Ontario, check out their "What We Do" video below.



CCOF FOUNDATION DONORS

CCOF CHRISTIAN D. LARSON PARTNERS MEMBERSHIP

747 Leslie Trevor
748 Cheryl Card (In Memory)

764 David Adam
766 Frank Tuttle

CCOF TOP TEN as of April, 2022

District	Representative	Average Contribution Per Member
Alberta, Montana Saskatchewan & Northern Wyoming	Edie Harris	62.42\$
Dakotas-Manitoba- Minnesota Pacific Northwest	Donna Suggitt Peter Smith	58.01\$ 32.36\$
Central Ontario	Gordon and Barbara Holly	24.71\$
Quebec Central	Roland Rhéaume and Nathalie Gravel	21.91\$

District	Representative	Total Contributions
Alberta, Montana, Saskatchewan & Northern Wyoming	Edie Harris	\$33,331.82
Central Ontario	Gordon and Barbara Holly	\$21,598.46
Quebec Central	Roland Rhéaume & Nathalie Gravel	\$18,712.72
MidWestern Ontario	Warren Bechthold & Jim Pipe	\$16,593.50
Southwestern Ontario	John C. & Joanne Sanders	\$16,059.50

CCOF DONOR LISTINGS

This is a record of lifetime accumulation levels achieved by individuals and Clubs.

Silver Benefactor - 25,000\$

CENTRAL ONTARIO
Optimist Club of Oakville

Bronze Benefactor - 15,000\$

CENTRAL ONTARIO
Optimist Club of Cornwall
MIDWESTERN ONTARIO
Optimist Club of Shakespeare

Eminent Benefactor - 10,000\$

QUEBEC CENTRAL
Claudel Michon
Jacques Pelland
MIDWESTERN ONTARIO
Optimist Club of Burford
Optimist Club of Guelph
Optimist Club of London
Optimist Club of Waterloo North

Distinguished Benefactor - 5,000\$

ALBERTA, MONTANA, SASKATCHEWAN and
NORTHERN WYOMING
Leslie Trevor
Tim Bell

CENTRAL QUEBEC
Manon Daigneault

EASTERN ONTARIO
Ann Richer-Doyle
Rhéal Bazinet

QUEBEC SOUTH
Sylvain Ménard

Honored Benefactor - 2,500\$

ALBERTA, MONTANA, SASKATCHEWAN and
NORTHERN WYOMING
Brent Card

CENTRAL QUEBEC
Club Optimiste Beloeil
Nathalie Gravel

CENTRAL ONTARIO
Anne Donkers

WESTERN QUEBEC
Optimist Club of Templeton

Benefactor - 1,000\$

CENTRAL QUEBEC
Club Optimist Montréal-Ahuntsic
Marie-Dominique Fortin
Maxime Nadeau

MIDWESTERN ONTARIO
Gary O'Donoghue
Ken Reich

QUEBEC SOUTH
Club Optimiste de Drummondville
François Jean
Véronique Bergeron

CENTRAL ONTARIO
Francis Tuttle
Joan Helmbecker

QUEBEC EAST ACADIE
Henriette Harvey and Jacques Pelletier



Canadian Children's
Optimist Foundation



Congratulations to our Newest OIF Board Member **FATIMA PLATER**

Q: As an Optimist Member for over 26 years, how did your Optimist Journey begin, and what motivates you to not just continue but seek to lead and do more for the Foundation and organization?

Fatima: I was literally recruited on an elevator at Riverfront Apartments in Detroit Michigan 26 years ago by Past Optimist International Board Member, Herbert J. Strather. He invited me to a new Club informational meeting. I joined Metro Riverfront Optimist Club that evening.

Education and service go hand in hand with who I am as a person and as a leader. I've always set personal goals and sought training. Then shared what I've learned and implemented that training to serve my classroom, school, Clubs, District, community, and this international organization. I'm motivated to continue to grow through service and do more, because I've seen over the past 26 years that I'm able to make a greater use of the skills I've acquired to more importantly, make a greater impact on the lives of others.

Q: What type of new resources are you looking to introduce to the Foundation, and how will they help expand the mission and

vision of the Foundation and/or Optimist organization?

Fatima: My overall goal through training, communication, and expansion of partnerships is to increase the number of Optimist Members who understand the benefits of giving to the Optimist International Foundation. This will result in an increase in the number of Members who give to the Foundation and use its programs to strengthen their Club and make a greater impact in their worldwide communities. We are limited in our ability to garner grants based on the percentage of our Membership who donate to the Optimist International Foundation. I believe our most valuable resource is our Membership. When we increase their financial support to the OIF we open "the door" to expanded monetary resources.

Q: When you are not busy with Optimist International, describe your home life and community involvement.

Fatima: The major portion of my time outside of Optimism is spent serving on the Board of Directors of Renaissance Headstart which serves 300 families in Metropolitan Detroit, Michigan. I belong to Metro Riverfront, Healthy Kids, Loving Community and International Centennial Optimist Clubs and serve in multiple capacities. I also serve on The Michigan District's Membership Committee. I enjoy reading and belong to the Wayne State University Book Club.

Q: Highlight a personal achievement:

Fatima: The formation of the Fatima Plater Scholarship Fund, July of 2021, which to date has given scholarships to students at Western Michigan University and Wayne State University.

Q: Highlight a community achievement:

Fatima: I served on the city of Detroit Human Rights Commission and received the Spirit of Detroit service recognition.

Q: Highlight an Optimist organization Member/Club/ or District achievement:

Fatima: I was inducted into the Michigan District Hall of Fame.

Q: Highlight why you think it is essential not just to be a Member but to help lead and develop future leaders, and how do you plan to pave a path for others?

Fatima: Mentorship is the key to success for everyone seeking to meet their goals. I was mentored throughout my professional teaching career and have been trained in providing mentorship to others. I'm committed to mentor teachers and fellow Optimists who are in careers or positions where needed support and encouragement will strengthen their ability to be successful. If my path only includes me, then who will follow?

2022 Club Grant

Winning Submissions

The Optimist International Foundation's Club Grant Program offers up to \$1000 to help Clubs establish new programs.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2022 WINNERS:

San Antonio (TX) Optimist Club

Clemson (SC) Area Optimist Club

Optimist Club of Twin Falls (ID)

Washington (DC) National Capital Optimist Club

Morning Optimist Club of Moreno Valley (CA)

Barge Canal Optimist Club of Lockport

Optimist Club of Talladega (AL)

Optimist Club Ankeny (IA)

Lower Providence Optimist Club (PA)

Athens (TN) Optimist Club

Playa Vista Optimist Club (CA)

Caldwell (ID) Optimist Club

St. Paul (MN) Optimist Club

Sunrise Optimist Club of Lockport (NY)

Carolina Cardinals (NC) Optimist Club

Capitol (CA) Optimist Club

East Wake (NC) Optimist Club

Mansfield (OH) Noon Optimist Club

Optimist Club of Fort Walton Beach (FL)

Wave Makers (MI) Optimist Club

Metro Riverfront (MI) Optimist Club

THANK YOU!

from the Optimist International Foundation Board of Directors

The research is right... Optimists live longer!

Study after study confirms that an optimistic outlook can contribute to a longer, healthier life.

We didn't have to look far to see evidence of that, join us in celebrating these Optimist Members and Clubs celebrating their 100th plus birthdays this year!



Bill Strong

I live by the words of our Creed especially the one about health happiness and

prosperity because I always looks to the future. That's what you need to do to go forward in the future. When I wake up, it's always a new day with new opportunities.



Edie Wood

I first became aware of the Optimists when I lived in the San Francisco Bay area many years ago. My grandsons

were involved in a baseball team supported by the Optimists and I was the one who dropped off and picked them up at the games. I was appreciative of the time and effort given by the Optimists in helping the boys. When I moved to Oroville several years later, I was happy to discover an Optimist Club there and became an active member and soon joined the board. I love the people!



John Bender

I will be 100 years young in November of 2022. I am a member of the Evansville Downtown

Optimist Club in Evansville, IN. I am a proud WWII Army veteran, after the war I completed medical school, and soon thereafter was called up for the Korean conflict and served as a medic in Korea.



Millie Price-Cole

I was an optimist before I became an Optimist with a capitol "O". If we have

a choice between optimism an negativism, why would anyone want the gloomy side; I choose Optimism because it makes me happy and at peace with myself. Optimism gets one through the rough times; thinking positively about problems opens the path to new solutions. I believe I am healthier because I don't dwell on negative thoughts. Doctors admit that the optimist tends to be more healthy. Being an Optimist has given me friends who are Optimistic and good fun to be around. I truly believe Optimism is the reason for being allowed to stay relatively healthy, and reach the age of 100 years+. I am so grateful that I am an Optimist with a capitol "O".

Clubs celebrating 100+ years

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Optimist Club of Detroit-Downtown, MI
Chartered 03/01/1922

CELEBRATING 101 YEARS

Optimist Club of Evansville, IN
Chartered 05/13/1921

Optimist Club of Pasadena, CA
Chartered 09/01/1921

CELEBRATING 102 YEARS

Optimist Club of Knoxville, TN
Chartered 12/18/1920

CELEBRATING 105 YEARS

Optimist Club of Los Angeles, CA
Chartered on 03/01/1917

CELEBRATING 106 YEARS

Optimist Club of Kansas City, MO
Chartered on 04/01/1916

Optimist Club of Indianapolis, IN
Chartered 05/01/1916

Optimist Club of Louisville, KY
Chartered 07/01/1916

Optimist Club of Mile-Hi Denver, CO
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Optimist Club of St. Louis, MO
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Optimist Club of Milwaukee, WI
Chartered on 10/01/1916



Better Together – It Takes a Village

Working Parents Need Better Support: 3 Ways to Build the Best Support Systems

by **Tracy Brower**

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One of the most rewarding elements of life is to parent a child. But parenting also comes with challenges when moms and dads are working, juggling responsibilities, and responding to all kinds of demands.

Unfortunately, a regular mantra of all kinds of parents in all kinds of jobs is [they don't get the support they need](#). Support can come in many forms and a study by [Arizona State University](#) points to key elements which are most supportive—and how working parents can find, expand, and sustain the support they need.

A combination of support systems is best—with [programs, policies and scaffolding created by organizations](#), communities and parents themselves. And parents in particular, can create certain types of positive relationships—creating the conditions for satisfaction and fulfillment.

Multiple Right Answers

A critical place to begin is with the understanding that work and parenthood don't have to be at odds. Classic studies on working moms have demonstrated all kinds of work patterns, hours, and routines can work for parents and children. What's more important than working hours—whether parents work full time, part time, or don't work outside the home—is whether they are satisfied with their choices. There is a significant spillover effect. When people are happier in their work and working hours, this tends to influence their life in the home as well.

Therefore, as much as possible, seek to align what you love to do with what you have to do. You'll rarely get perfect overlap, but more intersection is helpful to happiness. In addition, seek to align your schedule with your own preferences. This may not always be possible, but when it is, it is also a solid recipe for satisfaction.

Of course, some aspects of work responsibilities and scheduling will be outside of our control, so you can also

remind yourself that doing your best is also instructive for kids. When children see parents working hard, [dedicated to expressing their talents](#), and contributing to the family and the community, these are good things which in turn influence children's views on the importance of contributing and being part of a community.

The Support Parents Need

Parents experience support when they feel they are understood, appreciated, and when they can obtain comfort and help when it's necessary. These are consistent with the fundamentals of all kinds of great relationships—personal and work-related—where people feel seen, heard, and feel a sense of empathy and compassion.

In the Arizona State University study, there were three particular elements of relationships which were most important—and here are the implications for how you can build the best relationships.

#1 – Unconditional Acceptance and Comfort

In the study, one of the primary elements of support was when parents felt they had unconditional [acceptance and the comfort of friends](#). Everyone needs relationships where friends offer challenging support or help solve problems. But in this study, an even bigger contributor to parents feeling supported was having unconditional acceptance.

And this unconditional support can be tough to find. Parents face plenty of criticism and dogma—about everything from their children's sleeping and eating habits to discipline and family time. In addition, parental bias can create pressure. With this type of bias, people see great parenting and assume the person probably doesn't devote herself fully to her job or see great professional achievement and assumes the person probably isn't a great parent. But despite this bias, parenting isn't zero sum. In fact, people can be great parents and [great performers at work](#)—of course.

The Implication: Find friends who tune in, check in, and listen without judgement or criticism. Let friends know when you just need to talk, and when you want to avoid advice or solutions. When you find relationships where you can be vulnerable and be accepted, nurture those and invest time in them.

In addition, be the kind of friend who offers non-challenging support and a safe space for those who need it—allowing others to disclose concerns without judgement. You can also seek out support groups of people who have common interests. Often small groups can create safe spaces to talk about circumstance or situations which are uniquely challenging or difficult.

#2 – Authenticity in Relationships

Another aspect of support is authenticity in relationships. So when you're seeking to create a life where you feel

most supported as a working parent, this is an element of relationships to prioritize. Authenticity is when you can be real with someone and when there is a high level of honesty, trust, respect, and open communication. In an authentic relationship, you can be true to your values and your personality, while you're also deeply respectful of someone else.

The Implication: Seek relationships where you can really be yourself and invest time in these more than you invest time in other connections. Share your views, seek ideas from others, accept people even when they may have different perspectives, because this tends to create a positive trajectory for the relationship.

#3 – Satisfaction with Friendships

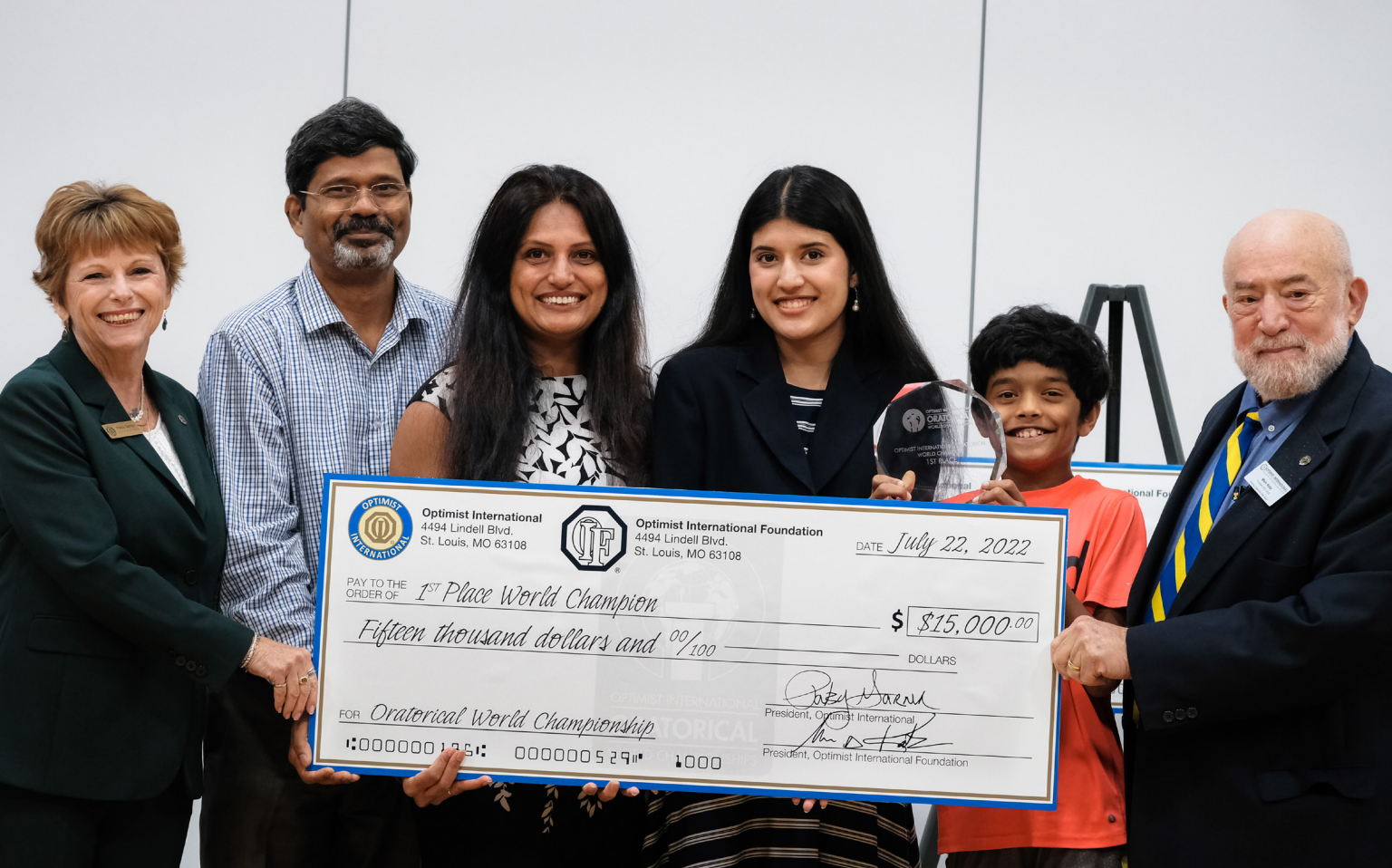
A third element of support is satisfaction with friendships. When working parents were satisfied with their relationships, they tended to feel greater levels of overall support. Interesting research on happiness finds when you feel a greater level of fulfillment outside of work, you also tend to perceive greater happiness within your work. The spillover effect operates from personal life to your work (in addition to operating the other way around as well).

[One recent study showed](#) that because of the pandemic, many people reflected, regrouped, and reprioritized their time and activities, placing family and community at the top of their lists. In addition, people said they became more selective about their friends. The logic applies here as well. Working parents often face time scarcity in which they lack the capacity of all the demands and desires of life. So, deciding which friendships are most satisfying and which relationships are most fulfilling can be an important approach.

The Implication: Be selective about the people with whom you spend time and build relationships. Prioritize people who inspire you and from whom you can learn. And nurture relationships where you have fun, enjoy similar activities, and can be yourself. You can also consider finding groups where there is plenty of diversity so you can expand your perspectives and also groups where you feel commonality and kindred spirits. Both are important to fulfillment and satisfaction.

In Summary

While parenting can be challenging, it is tremendously rewarding as well—and when working parents feel supported, it can make all the difference. Humans crave strong relationships and connections; they also crave to contribute and express their skills and abilities. So, building meaningful relationships which support both work and parenting is an important way to empower yourself as a fulfilled and satisfied working mom or dad.



Congratulations to our World Champions!

First Place
Samiksha Gaherwar
Southeast Region
\$15,000

Second Place
Rin Choi
South Korea
\$10,000

Third Place
Maeva Giroux
Optimiste Francophone Canadien
\$5,000

Above: Optimist International President Patsy Garner and Foundation President Marc Katz with 1st place World Winner Samiksha Gaherwar and her family.

2022 Optimist International Oratorical World Championships

The Seventh Annual Optimist International Oratorical World Championships took place at Saint Louis University on July 21-22, 2022. Over 50 contestants from the Caribbean, Canada, and the United States competed in eight World Regions. The Global Region included contestants from Haiti, Hong Kong, Nepal, Pakistan, and South Korea.

The nine World Regional winners received a \$5,000 scholarship and advanced to the World Championships. The first, second, and third place World Champions received scholarships of \$15,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000 respectively.

Thank you to all the contestants, judges, volunteers, teachers, coaches, and Optimist Members that helped make this program a success!

Congratulations to our Regional Champions!

Samiksha Gaherwar
Southeast Region

Mukta Dharmapurikar
Mid-Atlantic Region

Maryam Al-Sabawi
NE & Great Lakes Region

AdyLynn Anderson
Southwest Region

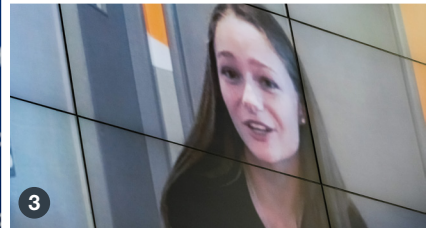
Zafina Zaman
Great Plains Region

Amrutha Challa
West Coast Region

Abigail Richner
Middle America Region

Maeva Giroux
Optimiste Francophone Canadien

Rin Choi
Global Region (South Korea)



1. Maryam Al-Sabawi 2. Rin Choi, Virtual (Global Region – South Korea) 3. Maeva Giroux, Virtual (Optimiste Francophone Canadien) 4. World Champion Winner Samiksha Gaherwar's father jumping with excitement after hearing the news that his daughter won 1st place! 5. Great Plains Regional Winner Zafina Zaman awaits final results holding hands with her mom, who was the inspiration for her speech. 6. Regional Winners: Samiksha Gaherwar, AdyLynn Anderson, Zafina Zaman, Abigail Richner, Amrutha Challa, Maryam Al-Sabawi, Mukta Dharmapurikar

All scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundation and the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation. Their support allows Optimist International to continue this great program since its start in 1928.



Canadian Children's
Optimist Foundation

Club News



Antonio Yturralde, first place winner Essay Contest

Pacific Southwest District

Pacific Southwest District has successfully held another essay competition for the year 2021-2022, with the topic of: *“How Can an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?”*

Antonio Yturralde, from the Northside Santa Barbara Optimist Club, won first place. Antonio’s reading was met with much enthusiasm and applause by members of PSWD.

Juerta Pirraci, from the East Ventura Optimist Club, won second place. Juerta immigrated from Albania in her sophomore year of high school without knowing any English. Her determination, drive, and optimism helped her succeed!

Sierra Kushi, from the Gardenia Evening Club, won third place. Sierra attends Torrance High School and states that, “by developing an optimistic mindset, we encourage ourselves to keep our head up and feel positive about the moments ahead.”

Written by: Carmen Gilmore, PSWD District Essay Chair



Boys 12-13: Will Jones, 1st; Rylan Beighle, 2nd; Calen Caskey 3rd.
 Boys 14-15: Braydon Mays, 1st, Grayson Hampton, 2nd.
 Boys 16-18: Logan Liles, 1st; Titus McGlone, 2nd; Braydon DeHart, 3rd.
 Girls 13_14-18: Athena Singh, 1st; Kinzie Kilgore 2nd
 Girls 15-18: Cadence Caskey, 1st; Carolina Johnson, 2nd.

Morehead Optimist Club

The Morehead Optimist Club hosted their Junior Golf Tournament at Eagle Trace Golf Course. Junior golfers from Rowan, Lewis, Morgan, and Carter Counties participated. Winners advance to the KY/WV District Tournament at Eagle Trace Golf Course to compete for a spot in the Junior World of Golf Tournament at Doral Resort and Spa in Miami.

Submit your Club or District news for the Optimist Magazine to magazine@optimist.org. Reports must be less than 200 words, and may be edited for length, clarity and style. Any pictures should be submitted as attachments.



Pacific Trails Middle School Junior Optimist Club

A group of Pacific Trails Middle School Junior Optimists, led by Member Ava Khossravi, recently embarked on an ambitious project to obtain 100 new backpacks and fill them with school supplies to be donated to the Monarch School in San Diego. Assisting with the project was Ms. Elizabeth Sweetman, Campus Director of the Carmel Valley unit of the Art of Problem Solving (AoPS) Academy whose guidance and support enabled this project to be successfully completed.

The Pacific Trails Middle School Junior Optimist Club is sponsored by the Del Mar – Solana Beach Optimist Club.



Optimist Club of Sanger

Our son and only child, Zachary John Horton, passed away suddenly after losing his battle with an opioid addiction. He died of an accidental overdose at just 19 years old. We knew him, loved him with all our hearts, and we now know that was not enough to shield him from this horrific disease.



ZACHARY HORTON
FOUNDATION

Our Mission

We aim to break the stigma of addiction by offering love, hope, and acceptance to individuals and families suffering from this disease. We accomplish this through education, outreach, support, and scholarships to those in need.

Optimist Creed

The Optimist Creed melds so perfectly with our mission. The local Optimist Club of Sanger has embraced our cause in word and deed. To have a partner that we can work alongside is truly a blessing. We are honored to provide addiction education, Narcan training, and a platform to help families begin a conversation to break the stigma of addiction.



Altamonte Springs South Seminole Optimist Club

Altamonte Springs South Seminole Optimist JOI Club from Milwee Middle School in Longwood, FL had a craft day for children at Cranes Roost Family Fest. They had the children draw happy pictures on a tablecloth to be given to a local retirement home. A fun community project.

Meet The 2022 Hugh Cranford All-Scholastic Team



Golfers from around the world submitted an application, essay, current school transcript, most-recent grade report and test results for a chance to be selected to the Hugh Cranford All-Scholastic Team.

Those making the team exemplified an impressive balance of academics, golf and community service. After reviewing the qualifications of impressive applicants, the Optimist Junior Golf Committee selected the following exceptional student athletes for the team:

- Logan Schoepp, Bismarck, ND
 - Reece Scott, Madison, CT
 - Haley Wong, El Dorado Hills, CA
 - Lauren Wong, Las Vegas, NV
 - **Community Service Award Winner**
 - Katelyn Lehig, Loveland, CO
- Lauren Wong, Las Vegas, Nevada



Logan Schoepp will be graduating this year from Century High School in Bismarck, North Dakota. Logan excels inside and outside of school. Logan is the Valedictorian of his class. His cumulative GPA of 4.0 is ranked #1 of 294 students. Logan has taken and excelled in several AP classes. He has earned the Presidential Academic Silver Award, Student of the Quarter, the Outstanding Junior Award and is a member of the National Honor Society. Logan is an avid golfer averaging a 75.2 and is team captain of his school team, team captain of the Science Olympiad team and member of the Student Leadership Network.

Logan volunteers with the Salvation Army, volunteers at his church in hospitality and as an altar server and helps at the St. Mary's Carnival.



Reece Scott is a junior at Daniel Hand High School in Madison, Connecticut. Reece challenges himself by taking the most rigorous courses offered at Daniel Hand High School and has experienced a plethora of success. Reece is a member of the National Honor Society. He has earned the Outstanding Academic Excellence Award, President's Education Award, Student Leadership Award and Mathematics Achievement Award. Reece has also kept a full schedule outside of the classroom. Reece is a Junior Varsity member of the Basketball team and the Captain of the Varsity Golf team. The Golf team won the State Championship in 2021. In his spare time, Reece is a volunteer golf coach through a program called the First Tee, he is a high school tour guide for Daniel Hand High School, a member of Peer Advocates, and a community service volunteer for his town.

Lauren Wong is a junior at West Career and Technical Academy in Las Vegas, Nevada. She carries a 5.05 cumulative grade point average and is ranked #2 of 349 students. Lauren is an inductee of the National Honor Society. She received the National Scholastic Art and Writing Award. She was the winner of the National Center for Women and Information Technology and was selected for the Nevada State All-Academic Team for three years in a row. Lauren is a resounding voice in matters that affect the entire school, community, city, and the state of Nevada! Lauren made a concrete impact by creating and running the Nevada Girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) summer camp. Lauren currently sits as an advocate in the Nevada Youth Legislature, where she is literally the voice of the youth of Senate District 8, representing more than 40,000 students. Lauren is the varsity captain for her school. Lauren also placed 9th out of 88 girls at the 2021 Optimist Junior Golf Championship at Trump National Doral in Miami, Florida.



Haley Wong is a Junior at Oak Ridge High School in El Dorado Hills, California. Haley scored high on the SAT and PSAT and ranked #5 of 629. She took several advance placement classes this year. Haley is a member of the National Honor Society and an officer of the Spanish Honor Society. She is undefeated in Varsity/Novice Public Forum Debate. Player, Par, birdie and eagle certified in Life Skills Sierra Foothill League 1st All-Team. Haley is the team captain of the Varsity Women's Golf team, on the Swim team, member of the Asian culture team, Debate team, Femmpowerment Club and plays piano. Haley devotes her time to volunteering at First Tee tournaments, US Kids tournaments, and community events and fundraisers.

The Community Service Award goes to:

Katelyn Lehigh will be graduating this year from Loveland High School in Loveland, Colorado. She scored high on her SAT and PSAT and ranked #1 in her class. Katelyn lettered in the National Honor Society, Academic All-State in Basketball and Golf and a JGAC Academic All-Star. Katelyn is on the varsity basketball and golf team. In her "spare time", Katelyn volunteers her time throughout the year for Habitat for Humanity, Wreaths Across America, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, AJGA, JGAC, Unified basketball and Ironman Boulder. She is a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Katelyn has grown up playing in the Optimist Junior Golf Tournaments locally and at the Championship level as well as competing in other national events such as Girls Jr. America's Cup, the U.S. Girls Junior, and the Notah Begay National Championship.



The All-Scholastic Team is named for Hugh Cranford, who served as executive director of Optimist International from 1967 to 1986. He was instrumental in starting the Optimist Junior Golf program and in 1978 led the efforts to co-sponsor the Optimist Junior World Golf Championships in San Diego, the forerunner to today's Optimist International Junior Golf Championships. Cranford passed away in August 2014.

The 30th Annual Junior Optimist International Convention took place at Circus Circus in Reno, Nevada on June 30 - July 2, 2022!



SOME HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:

- Robotics Demonstration - FIRST Nevada
- Welcome Celebration at the National Bowling Stadium
- Keynote Speaker: Scott LeRette, Author of The Unbreakable Boy
 - Fashion Show with Recyclable Items
- Keynote Speaker: Malcolm "Puck" Puckering - Magician and Motivational Speaker
 - Service Project with the local group - Safe Embrace
- Sessions: Mindfulness, Networking, Healthy Communication, Zen, Music
 - Business Session - Policy Amendment Voting
 - Teambuilding Activities and Healthy Conversations
 - "JOI's GOT TALENT" - Talent Show

Ronald E. Thompson

1973-1974 Optimist International President



Ronald E. Thompson, 1931-2022

Ronald E. Thompson, beloved husband, cherished father and grandfather, died on Sunday, February 27, at age 90. He met his wife Marilyn on a blind date and it was love at first sight; she was the love of his life for 64 years. Ron was preceded in death by his parents Rex and Clara, and his identical twin brother Don. He is survived by Marilyn, his wife of 64 years, and by his son Jeff Thompson and daughters Karen Gordon, Susan Price, Nancy Woodworth, Sally Gant and Claire Manke; grandchildren Emily, Ellen, David, Jordan, Garrett, Broc, Derek, Pete, Sean, Ron, Annette, Mark, Jane, Brett and RJ; and great-grandchildren Tora, Zoe, Alden, Brady and Lily.

Ron was born in Bremerton, WA, and attended South Kitsap High School. He graduated from the University of Washington's Foster School of Business in 1953 and the UW School of Law in 1958. He was a veteran of the Korean War and continued to serve in the US Army Reserve until his retirement as a colonel in 1988.

Ron took great pleasure in a long career as a lawyer. He helped to establish access to legal services for people in need. In addition, he devoted himself to several Tacoma focused organizations, including the Municipal League, Tacoma Sister City Program with Japan, Optimist Club, Pierce County Economic Development Board and Tacoma Rescue Mission.

A life-long love of movies was a passion tracing back to his parents, owners of several theaters in the Bremerton/Port Orchard area. He especially enjoyed piling his six pajama-clad kids into the family's station wagon and taking them to the drive-in.

His favorite moments were with his family— travelling, hiking and camping— and Sundays with his son Jeff. A member of the Gig Harbor Golf and Country Club, Ron teed off every Wednesday with a group of good friends.

Please celebrate Ron by going on a walk in the woods to enjoy nature as he did. Donations can be made to the Emergency Food Network, <https://efoodnet.org/donate/>

Patrick Grady

1975-1976 Optimist International President



Patrick L. Grady, 1926-2022

Patrick L. Grady, 95, of Carmel, Indiana, passed away peacefully on February 2, 2022. He was born in Portland, Indiana on March 24, 1926. He was predeceased by his mother, Bernice D. (Brokaw), and father Francis S. Grady, as well as an infant daughter, Susan Elizabeth, a brother, Thomas F. Grady and sister, Mary Catherine Hawkins. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and loving wife of 73 ½ years, Mary (Briggs) Grady and three daughters, Kathleen (Kurt-deceased) Douglass, Colleen (John) Colvin and Marianne (Chip) Koby.

Pat has four grandchildren: JT (Cathy) Mlinarcik, Geoff (Alexis) Mlinarcik, Kelly (Drew) Cohen and Kendall (Ryan) Scott. He also has eight great grandchildren: Halle, Jon Grady, Ryder and Dillon Mlinarcik; Joss and Emmet Cohen, and Mackenzie and Miles Mlinarcik.

Pat graduated from Cathedral High School in 1943. He attended Purdue University and was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Pat joined the Navy V12 program in November 1943 and attended Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Afterward he served on the Destroyer USS Rogers DD876 until 1946. Pat was recalled by the Navy in 1951 serving on the Destroyer USS DeHaven DD727. Many years later, after serving his country, building a successful business, and raising his family, he returned to college. He graduated from Indiana University in 1998.

Pat was president of Grady Brothers, Inc., a road contracting company for 38 years. He was involved with Junior Achievement, Boy Scouts of America, Young Presidents Organization, and the Optimist organization serving as president of the Downtown Optimist Club, as Indiana District Governor and as president of Optimist International in 1975-76. Indiana's Governor, Otis Bowen, named him a Sagamore of the Wabash. He also was a member of Junto of Indianapolis, a charter member of St. Luke Catholic Church and served on the board of Meridian Hills Country Club. After moving to Florida in 1978, he served as president of Quail Ridge Country Club.

The family would like to acknowledge the compassionate care provided by Heart-to-Heart Hospice and the Copper Trace nursing staff.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in loving memory to Little Sisters of the Poor.

Mark Shriver

2009-2010 Optimist International President

Mark Owings Shriver IV, age 72, of Williamsburg, Virginia passed away on Monday, October 25, 2021. Mark was a marathon runner, in life and in Optimism.

Mark knew the long-distance goal is what mattered but that small actions along the way make the difference. That's why during his year as Optimist International's President, he did not forget how he reached the top leadership position in the organization or how his everyday activities in his Club kept him going and truly helped the kids.

Mark was honored to have been able to do all that he had at the leadership level. But he had not forgotten where he started or why. He considered himself an active Member of his Club, an everyday Member, going to as many meetings as possible, attending as many projects as he could. The Members of his Optimist Clubs were confident Mark would not skip a Club meeting just because he was President.

Mark's Optimist career started out at a steady pace. He finished at Emory University School of Law in 1981. The attorney Mark was working with invited him to a meeting of the Optimist Club of Canton, Georgia, he joined that Fall, and before you knew it, he became Club President, Lieutenant Governor in 1985-1986, and Governor (Distinguished) in 1989-1990. His passion for the organization kept him going for 40 years, but not every leg of the journey was easy.

Mark ran for a seat on the International Board of Directors in 1996 and in 2004. After losing both elections, Mark wondered whether he should give it up and then remembered the bigger picture. He stayed because of the people and the work Optimists were doing to help the youth. He ran again in 2005 and was elected for a three-year term.

“This is a sad time for GATEway Optimists and our great Optimist organization, and for me, personally. Our Past International President and Past Georgia Governor, Mark Shriver, has passed away. He meant so much to so many. He was a constant source of guidance, advice, encouragement, and friendship. A true Optimist! May he Rest In Peace.”
– H. Nick Prillaman, 2017-2018 International President



Mark Owings Shriver IV, 1949- 2021

Rewind

A look at more than 100 years of Optimist International memories



Photo: August/September, 1991 issue of *The Optimist*

‘Tiger’ Woods is a Legend at Optimist Junior World

Eldrick “Tiger” Woods started playing at the Optimist Junior World in 1982 when he was just 6 years old. Since then, the 15-year-old from Cypress, California has built quite a record. Now considered the top U.S. junior golfer, he has been featured in *Sports Illustrated*.

Woods added to his legendary standing as he captured the boys 15-17 division at the 24th annual Optimist Junior World July 16-19 in San Diego.

The win was his sixth at the Optimist Junior World—a record—and his fourth consecutive. He also became the first 15-year-old to win the boys 15-17.

Woods showed his skill and maturity in gaining a come-from-behind win. Trailing through the first three rounds, the high school sophomore shot a 3-under-par 69 in the final round.

His previous Optimist Junior World wins were the boys 10 under in 1984 and 1985, the boys 11-12 in 1988 and the boys 13-14 in 1989 and 1990.

This article was published in the 1991 August/September, issue of *The Optimist*.



Optimist INTERNATIONAL



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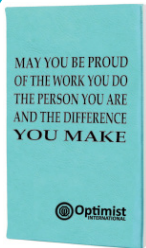
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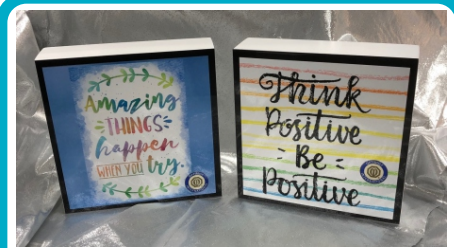


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