



**Cherie Gentry**  
**2016-2017 Ohio District Governor**



*Ohio District Optimist International*  
*May 2017 Edition*

# Index

<u>Page 3</u>	<u>Officer Elect Report Reminder</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Ohio District Website Info</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>Future Meeting Dates</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>Benefits of an Optimist Club</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>Youth Club Senior/Optimist Membership</u>
<u>8 &amp; 9</u>	<u>New Club Building “Club within a Club”</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>Ohio District Scholarship Fund</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>Tropics 2017-18 Scholarship Contests</u>
<u>12 &amp; 13</u>	<u>Ohio District Essay Winner</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>Ohio District CCDHH Winner</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>District Oratorical Winners</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>Local Club “Respect for Law”</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>Outstanding Ohio District Optimist</u>
<u>18 &amp; 19</u>	<u>Ohio District 2017 Junior World of Golf</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>Ohio District “Respect for Law”</u>

# REMINDER

The club's Officer Elect Report for next year (2017-18) is due May 20th. It very simply to do online.

Go to [www.optimist leaders .org](http://www.optimist leaders .org)

Log In (President or Secretary have pass words and can do can this)

Click on Reports (Right Side)

Click on **"Club Officer Elect Report (COER)"**

Highlight President Box-Click on members name below

Highlight Secretary Box-Click on members name below

Highlight Treasurer Box-Click on members name below

Submit

**OR**

Go to [www.OhioDistrictOptimists.org](http://www.OhioDistrictOptimists.org)

Click on **"Forms and Publications"**

Click on **"Downloadable from the OI website"**

Click on **"Club Officer Elect Report"**

Print—Fill out—Mail

**Check out our new website...**

**Ohiodistrictoptimist.org**

**We have redesigned the website to use WordPress so that the site can be easier to maintain and be easier to view on mobile devices. As with any new undertaking, there will undoubtedly be bugs to work out. If you see any, please let me know so that we can get them promptly fixed.**

**Yours in optimism, Cherie Gentry, Governor**

**The 2016-17 Ohio District Handbook has been completed, but corrections are always being made. **Ready** for distribution. You will be able to download the handbook (pdf). It will require a passcode.**

**You can go to:**

**<http://ohiodistrictoptimist.org/secretary-treasurer-resources/ohio-district-handbook/>**

**Passcode is kiss2017**

**Special thanks to District Secretary Jim Elder for his hard and dedicated work on the District Handbook**

## **2016-2017**

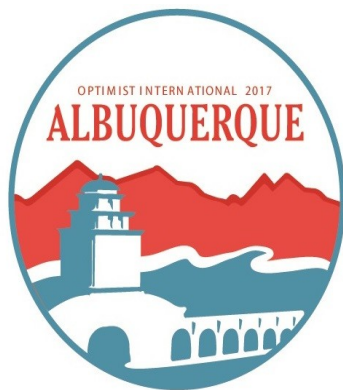
### **Ohio District Conferences & Convention Schedule**

#### **4th Quarter District Conference/Convention**

Fairborn, OH August 10-13, 2017  
Holiday Inn Dayton/Fairborn  
2800 Presidential Dr  
Fairborn, Ohio 45324  
Phone: (937) 426-7800

**July 6-8, 2017**

**Albuquerque Convention Center**  
Albuquerque, New Mexico







## Benefits of Being an Optimist Club

- Use of the Optimist name and logos.
- Youth-service projects developed by Optimist International; i.e., Oratorical Contest, Essay Contest, CCDHH, Childhood Cancer Campaign, Internet Safety, Youth Appreciation Week, Youth Safety, Respect For Law/Promotion of Non-Violence, Optimist Junior Golf, Tri-Star Sports.
- A structured youth organization-JOOI.
- Liability Insurance which covers Club activities at a fraction of the cost of individual event coverage from an outside source. Protects individual Club members and all Club officers.
- Administrative and leadership guidance from experienced Optimists within the District and from Optimist International.
- Access to information on Club programs, administration, training and leadership through the Optimist websites.
- Leadership training for Club officers provided by the District and Optimist International.
- The Optimist Magazine
- Club marketing material provided free of charge.
- Affiliation with over 2,500 other Optimist Clubs throughout the world.
- Recognition of Club projects through the Community Projects Awards (CPA) program.
- The ability to request Club program matching grants through the Optimist International Foundations.
- Networking with other local Clubs in activities and projects.
- Leadership opportunities for members to serve at District and International levels.
- District meetings and the annual International Convention to meet, share ideas and build friendships with Optimists outside your own Club.
- Being part of the heritage of an organization with nearly a century of outstanding service to our communities and youth.



## Free Membership for Graduating Seniors



In order to help students remain Optimists, Optimist International is offering all Junior Optimists graduating from high school a free membership for any adult or college Optimist Club. Your Club will not be billed a \$15.00 processing fee OR international dues for a full calendar year. This is a great opportunity for all Optimist Clubs. Please encourage any graduating Junior Optimists to take advantage of this opportunity by joining either their local Club, or a Club where they will be attending college. If your Club has a graduating Junior Optimist senior who wishes to take advantage of this offer, contact [membership@optimist.org](mailto:membership@optimist.org) or call 800-500-8130 ext. 226.



# New Club Building

## To ALL Optimists:

This is a GREAT opportunity for a club, a President and/or a Lt. Governor to become DISTINGUISHED.

Please read the **New Club Building Committee Report**. If you have any questions, please contact me..

I shared a few bits of information at the February District Conference. First, you do not need to submit a New Club Building Permission slip; second, the club within a club can be made up of past optimists, new recruits, college students, 30 under 30 and FOO's (Friend of Optimists).

Thank you for your attention to this important change in Optimist International Policy.

Bill O'Neil  
New Club Building Chair

## **NEW CLUB BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The report of the New Club Building Committee was presented to the Board of Directors by Jim Boyd for Committee Chair Jim Oliver

### **Club Within A Club**

#### **Rationale:**

The Committee is endorsing an initiative to promote the development of a "**Club Within a Club**" modeled after the successful young professional's club that is a part of the Lake Lotawanna Optimist Club in the West Missouri District.



Many long standing Clubs have difficulty in attracting younger members. Work force changes have made it difficult for some potential members to attend traditional breakfast or lunch style Club meetings. Social and cultural changes, episodic volunteering and mission/project driven focus presents new opportunities that may be addressed in creative meeting and operational style. The **Social Club or Club Within a Club** would meet once or twice a month in a more social setting in early evenings, with a focus on networking and social gathering. The young professionals group provides a traditional Club with an increased volunteer work force to tackle more complex project. It also will provide a platform for younger professionals to join an Optimist Club for their goals of networking, social activity with the availability of volunteering for activities of interest and impact in the Community.

New Club Building credit would be given to any existing Optimist Club that adds 15 members for the **Club Within a Club. Two Builders of Excellence designations would also be granted.** The Secretary-Treasurer of the host Club must submit a roster of at least 15 members for the group to be recognized and it is recommended the new group have representation on the existing Club's Board. Regular dues will apply and the 30 under 30 program can be used for the development process. While the program was launched with the provision that members of this new group must not have been an Optimist member for the 12-month period prior to the new Club's formation, the New Club Building Committee believes that is too long. It supports a period of four months before a former Optimist would become eligible for this new program.

The Committee encourages the Board to consider making this adjustment to the program.

**Motion adopted: Creswell/Paquette**

That the OI Board of Directors modify the **"Club Within a Club"** Initiative to allow former members of Optimist International to be a part of the new group after four months have elapsed since membership ceased. Budget Impact: None

## **Ohio District Scholarship Fund**

### **To All Ohio District Optimist Members:**

Several times I have been asked, “Why do I continue to ask for donations to the Ohio District Scholarship Fund, when there is so much scholarship money shown in the budget?”

There are many past winners who have not yet claimed the District Scholarship supplements. These past winners have until they reach the age of 25 to enroll in a continuing education program and claim this money. This is the restricted money shown in the budget.

The Ohio District has pledged to supplement the Optimist International Foundation Scholarships for the Oratorical, Essay and CCDHH contests, with an additional \$1000 for each winner and \$100 for each District Oratorical and CCDHH runner-ups each year.

**This means that we must raise \$4,600 each year in order to meet this commitment.**

We need every club to help in this effort. A donation to the Ohio District Scholarship Fund may be sent to:

William J. O’Neil  
233 Broken Fence Drive  
Medina, Ohio 44256  
Or

Brought to the next conference.

Thank you.

Bill O’Neil  
Scholarship Chair

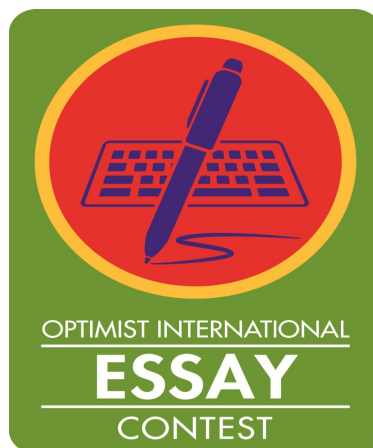
**Please share this memo with all of your members**



**The topic for the 2017-2018 Oratorical and CCDHH**

**Contest will be:**

**Where are My Roots of Optimism?**



**The topic for the 2017-2018 Essay Contest will be:**

**Can Society Function Without Respect?**



**District Essay Winner, Emily Screenan  
and Janet Aller of the Lime Shawnee  
Optimist Club**



## Essay Contest

Dear Optimists:

Thank you for participating in the 2016-2017 Ohio District Essay Contests, sponsored by Optimist International.

There were 26 Essays from the optimist clubs in the Ohio District that were judged. Overall, there were over 300 students who wrote on Essay on this year's topic: *"Chasing Optimism in the Face of Challenges"*.

The winning Essay was announced at the May Conference, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The winner was Emily Sreenan, sponsored by the Lima Shawnee Optimist Club.

As a reminder, the District winner receives a \$2500.00 scholarship from Optimist International Foundation and \$1000.00 scholarship from the Ohio District Scholarship Fund. The winner has until the age of 25 to claim these scholarships to be used for continuing their education. The same amount of scholarships are given to the District's winning CCDHH (Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) and one male and one female winners for the District's Oratorical Contest.

As a first time District Essay Chair, I thoroughly enjoyed it. I met new optimists from the clubs, learned how clubs announce their winners and also I believe I know the rules by heart since I explained it many times to students who found out about the contest thru the Optimist International website. Thank you Governor Cherie Gentry for giving me this opportunity to chair a great contest.

Yours in the Spirit of Optimism,  
Sharon M. O'Neil, Ohio District Essay Chair

**Rhett Fogt**, a Senior at Jackson Center, recently won the Great Ohio District Optimist District's Communications Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The theme of this year's contest was;

**"What the World Gains from Optimism."**

Rhett Fogt will receive a \$3,500 scholarship for the honor.

"Through spoken word Fogt did a wonderful job of presenting his thoughts about the questions posed to him," District CCDHH Chair Heather Kuth said. "We have no doubt that Rhett has a bright future ahead of him!"

The Great Ohio District has been actively participating in the Communications Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for past three years. The contest is open to students who have a hearing loss of 40 decibels or more, and students can sign or speak their presentation, or communicate through a combination of the two.



Pictured Left to Right, Heather Kuth District CCDHH Chair, Cherie Gentry District Governor, Jolene Fogt mom, Rhett Fogt winner, Chuck Fogt father, Larry Lynde, president Centerville Noon Chapter where Rhett won before advancing to the Ohio District Contest.



## **Oratorical Contest Announces Winners**

Seven young people spoke in front of a packed audience of Optimists, family, and friends at the District Oratorical Contest on Saturday, May 6. Speaking on the topic “*What the World Gains from Optimism*,” four girls and three boys delivered well-written and memorized speeches. The youngest speaker, **Benjamin Blaumeiser**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader sponsored by the Dor-Wood Optimist Club in Kettering, came out on top with his presentation and the judges said they were impressed with his delivery, poise, projection, and speech organization. Blaumeiser travels to St. Louis in June as the Great Ohio District’s representative in the Middle America Region. Best of luck to him!

**Anna Schaeffer**, a high school senior sponsored by the Strongsville Optimist Club won the girls contest and came in second place overall. She spoke eloquently about her experiences meeting one of the Lost Boys of Sudan and how struck she was by his optimism despite his desperate circumstances. Anna will study international relations at the University of Texas-Dallas in the fall. Both Blaumeiser and Schaeffer earned \$3,500 scholarships, and it was clear that those in attendance came away inspired by this next generation.

*Submitted by Debe Dockins, District Oratorical Chair*



Sally Schmidt  
Club President

Robert Buchanan  
Monroe Chief of Police

Cherie Gentry  
Governor

The Optimist Club of the Monroe-Area honored **Robert Buchanan**, City of Monroe Police Chair. The club presented Chief Buchanan a certificate and 27 “Law Survival Kites” for the remaining police officers and two dispatches. This was the club’s “Respect for Law” celebration



# CONGRATS

## 2017 AWARD RECIPIENTS

*George R. Henkle*

*Philanthropy & Community Service Award*

### ARLA TANNEHILL

Arla Tannehill has tirelessly served the citizens of Warren County for thirty years through her work with the Area Progress Council of Warren County, Leadership Warren County, and Project Excellence as well as multiple nonprofit boards. Arla is again president of the Lebanon Optimist Club, serves on the Advisory Council for Future Teachers at the Warren County Career Center, and is a board member of the William Caston Memorial Foundation. She is also a member of the Warren County Metropolitan Residents Council focusing on the Mary Wells Homework Club. Previously, Arla was president of the Warren County Chapter of the Ohio Horseman's Council, assisted with the Lebanon Chamber's Christmas Horse Drawn Carriage Parade, and served as a 4-H advisor and Horse Superintendant at the Warren County Fair.

# Junior World of Golf

## Registration Is Still Open For 2017 Ohio North Optimist Junior Golf Tournament on June 12

The Ohio North Optimist International Junior Golf Championships being held at Canton's Tam O'Shanter Golf Course on Monday, June 12, 2017 is still open for registration. We would GREATLY appreciate it if you would pass this information to all your junior golfers.

The following age/gender divisions will be offered at Tam O'Shanter: BOYS 10-11, 12-13, 14-15, 16-18 and GIRLS 10-12, 13-14, 15-18. The golfer's age determines the division where they play: on July 22, 2017 (for Boys 10-13 and Girls 10-12), July 27, 2017 (for Boys 14-15 and Girls 13-14) and August 2, 2017 (for Boys 16-18 and Girls 15-18).

The 18-hole tournament offers a chance for junior golfers to qualify for "The Optimist" being played at the PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, FL for the 21<sup>st</sup> consecutive year. Winners of each age/gender group, who are Ohio residents, will have their registration paid for at the tournament in Florida. Other qualifiers for this tournament will be responsible for their own expenses.

At "The Optimist" the age/gender competition schedule is as follows:

July 18-23, 2017: Boys 10-11 and 12-13 & Girls 10-12

July 23-28, 2017: Boys 14-15 & Girls 13-14

July 28-August 2, 2017: Boys 16-18 & Girls 15-18

We recommend that all junior golfers register on line at our website: <http://golf.optimist.org/oh>. This website will also be the place to go to download the entry and medical forms, get tee times, tournament results and obtain any other information about Ohio Optimist Junior Golf. The deadline for registration for the Ohio North Championship Tournament is June 6, 2017.

Remember if you don't register on-line you will need to mail in both the entry and medical forms with your \$80.00 entry check, made out to OJGC. If you register on-line you just need to mail the medical form and check to:

Ken MacDonald  
2438 Lyndon Dr.  
Uniontown, OH 44685

**Ohio South Optimist Jr. Golf Championship****Tournament on June 5th at Yankee Trace Golf Club****Centerville, Ohio 45458**

**As of May15th the registration for the South tournament is closed, we have 125 golfers signed up to play at one of the top golf courses at Yankee Trace.**

**While it is too late for golfers to sign up, it's not too late for volunteers to sign up and come help us on June 5th. With 125 golfers we need volunteers! You do not need to know how to play golf, there are a number of jobs for you to do, call me and give me your info. Work for an hour or all morning, free lunch and a T-shirt for men and Ladies V-neck.**

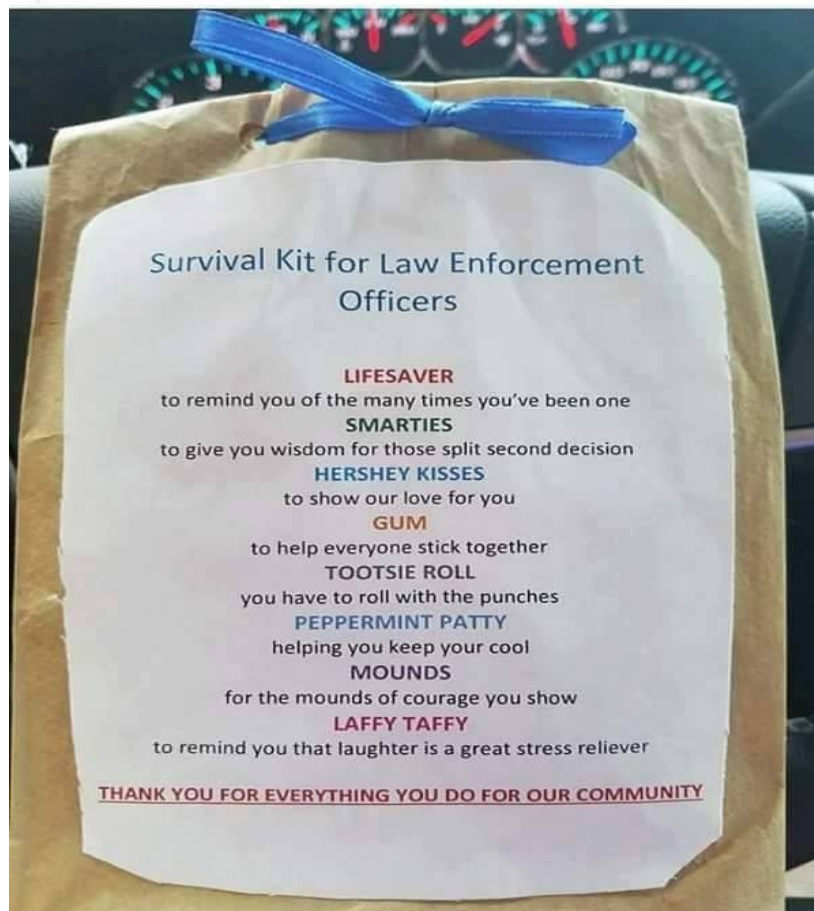
**If you can help call Ohio South Chair Jerry Stahley at 937-604-9921 or email at [jstahley@aol.com](mailto:jstahley@aol.com)**







The Ohio District Optimist presented a **Respect for Law certificate** and a **box of Police Survival Kits** for the Dublin Police Dept at the 3rd Quarter District Conference. Kits were put together by several ladies at the conference. We appreciate all that the officers do to keep us safe!







From The



of the Ohio District Bulletin Editor **Darrel Basford**

We are always looking for items to include in the District Newsletter each publication. These items can be from Clubs, Committee Chairs and members. If you have something to share with us please send these items to Darrel Basford at [darrelbasford@att.net](mailto:darrelbasford@att.net). **FYI** Governor Cherie Gentry would like the bulletin to go out quarterly after each District Conference. Next bulletin in August, 2017