



# Ohio District Bulletin September 2021 Edition



**Jennifer Kendo  
2020-2021 Governor**

# Message from our 2020-2021 Ohio District Governor

Fellow Ohio District Optimists

**We have begun the last month of the 2020-2021 “BE THE CHANGE – CHOOSE OPTIMISM” year.** There is still time to accomplish our goals and finish out the year Strong! Last month I challenged every club to add 1 new member in August & in September. It is not too late to ask a friend, neighbor, co-worker or family member to join your club. Let Optimism do its work to gain new members. Our communities and our youth need you more than ever!

Remember Optimist International and The Great Ohio District has offered financial incentives to your club for adding new members to your club. Optimist International has waived the new member \$15 fee. Any new members added between June 1 until September 30th, 2021 will save the \$15 fee. The Great Ohio District has offered a \$25 dues refund from the Ohio District for each new member added between June 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021. To receive the incentive your club's total number of members on October 1, 2021 must be greater than your club's June 1, 2021 total number of members. This incentive is to reflect positive growth within your club. The Ohio District will pay the dues refunds to your club in October 2021.

**Also, it is not too late to build a new club. So far this year the Ohio District has built/sponsored 4 new clubs.** There are at least 2 more new clubs in process. Optimist International President Patsy Garner has announced an incentive that a new club built in September will also be credited to the Ohio District new club building goal next Optimist year. Let's work to build new clubs in September that will also count next year for Governor Designate Greg Griffin and the 2021 – 2022 team. **Let's finish the job!**

I want to thank each and every one of you who has assisted in making the 2020-2021 “**BE THE CHANGE – CHOOSE OPTIMISM**” year a success! It has been a challenging year for everyone, but we were able to overcome the obstacles. **Our first conference** was held in person, complete with masks and social distancing but with was a great success in attendance and content. **Second quarter conference**, we had a completely virtual conference with several Optimist International dignitaries training and speaking. Our **third quarter conference** we recapped the virtual District Oratorical contest, focused on membership, and completed a district wide service project. And last month at our **District Convention** we remembered our optimist members that passed away, trained incoming leaders, conducted another successful district wide service project, and had fabulous fun, fellowship and entertainment that even included a performance by Elvis.

This year has also been a success with a positive change to the policies and structure of the Ohio District. We re-zoned our optimist clubs into 10 zones. We restructured the awards program. And we updated District policies. Thank you for supporting me as your Governor during these trying times! I appreciate all the kind words of encouragement and support.

Encouraging all to Be the Change and Choose Optimism!

Governor Jennifer

Dear Fellow Optimists,

As Governor-Designate for 2021-2022, I am excited and energized to get ready to start our new Optimist year on October 1<sup>st</sup> - but, most importantly, to help our wonderful current **Governor, Jennifer Kendo**, have a *fantastic finish* this Optimist year – which I remind everyone –is not over until September 30,2021.

**There is still much yet to accomplish this year.**

Our District has proven to be strong, resilient, and *optimistic* and we are poised for growth starting now and into next year. “Why do you say that?” you might ask...Here is why:

- **Our Global Optimist Organization has a wonderful “brand” and message** – out of all service organizations – ours states in its name what we stand for and offer – OPTIMISM.
- **Optimism has never been more relevant than it is right now.** People are yearning for optimism – consciously and subconsciously – we offer that. Let’s spread optimism everywhere.
- **The children we serve need us more than ever before.** In a fast-paced, everchanging world, we equip kids with the tools they need to succeed – to be optimistic, driven, resilient, law-biding future leaders. We believe that our children are our future.

With the above points in mind, we are in wonderful position to grow our organization with new members – the time is now. Therefore, I ask you: Who do you know who might enjoy helping kids? **Ask them.** Who do you know that might appreciate a lift by attending an Optimist Club Meeting and seeing what we are all about? **Ask them.** Who do you know that might enjoy volunteering and at the same time having *fun* doing it? **Ask them.**

**Just ask...**

I want to leave you with a line – **“If it’s going to be – it’s up to ME”**

Please take this line to heart and remember, we cannot do anything without **you**, without fellow optimists, without new members joining us to serve children today and more importantly, in the future. Our time is now so let’s get started.

Yours in Optimism

Greg Griffin  
Ohio District Governor – 2021-2022

THE **73rd Ohio District Convention** was held at the Embassy Suites Columbus-Dublin on August 19 - August 22, 2021. There were 18 Clubs represented with 67 delegates in attendance. **Training** was conducted for the Lt Governor-Elects, Club President-Elects and Secretary/Treasurer-Elects. We were also honored (by Zoom) to hearing from our Optimist International Vice President, **Tracy Huxley**, and **Bob McFadyen**, Optimist International President-Elect for the 2022-2023 Optimist year. Also present was our own **Sue Armstrong**, who will be our Optimist International Vice President in the 2021-2022 Optimist year. Fun and fellowship was had by all. If you were unable to attend, you missed a fantastic convention.

**Bingo...Bingo...Bingo....** We have a few winners

Thank you to all who participated in the Bingo game at the recent Ohio District Convention. I am sure you made new optimist friends and you learned a lot about them.

**The winners are:**

Ellen Brautigam - free registration to the 1st quarter conference

Pat Behn - piece of luggage

Lynn Colemire - Blanket with radio

Rick Armstrong - Blanket

Brenda Moore - Blanket

**Congratulations to all!**

It was announced that the **74<sup>th</sup> Ohio District Convention** will be held at the Embassy Suites Columbus-Dublin hosted by the Hilliard Optimist Club with **Chuck Davis** as the Convention Chairperson. Date of the convention is **August 11, 12 & 13, 2022.**





**William (Bill) Stone**, member of the Centerville-Noon Optimist Club, was elected as the Ohio District's

**2021-2022 Governor-Elect**

Bill will be our Governor in 2022-2023

*Important Upcoming Events, what's happening in our Ohio District and Dates*



**1<sup>st</sup> Quarter - 2021-2022 District Conference**

**November 5-6, 2021 – Embassy Suites and Conference Center – Dublin, Ohio**



*The Great Ohio District is elated to help celebrate the following Club's Anniversary Date for the Month of **September***

| Club                       | City         | Charter Date | Years     | Club# | Zone |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-------|------|
| Bft Putnam County          | Ottawa       | 09/03/1991   | <b>20</b> | 24313 | 1    |
| The Greene                 | Beavercreek  | 09/12/2013   | <b>9</b>  | 24521 | 12   |
| Huber Heights              | Dayton       | 09/17/1958   | <b>63</b> | 24220 | 11   |
| Brookville                 | Brookville   | 09/19/1955   | <b>66</b> | 24050 | 11   |
| Springboro                 | Springboro   | 09/19/2002   | <b>19</b> | 24509 | 14   |
| Toledo Westgate            | Toledo       | 09/23/1974   | <b>47</b> | 24426 | 1    |
| Hartfort Township          | Hartfort     | 09/26/1956   | <b>65</b> | 24200 | 5    |
| Troy Noon                  | Troy         | 09/26/1956   | <b>65</b> | 24385 | 10   |
| Dayton UD Flyers           | Dayton       | 09/26/2005   | <b>16</b> | 24516 | 14   |
| Buckeye Club               | Columbus     | 09/26/2011   | <b>10</b> | 24023 | 7    |
| Greenmont Voices           | Dayton       | 09/27/2018   | <b>3</b>  | 24527 | 12   |
| Sinclair Community College | Dayton       | 09/28/2016   | <b>5</b>  | 24523 | 12   |
| Dayton Northridge          | Dayton       | 09/29/1964   | <b>57</b> | 24305 | 11   |
| New Carlisle Breakfast     | New Carlisle | 09/29/1988   | <b>33</b> | 24280 | 12   |
| Delphos                    | Delphos      | 09/30/1988   | <b>33</b> | 24112 | 9    |
| Bearcat@UC                 | Cincinnati   | 09/30/2018   | <b>3</b>  | 24528 | 15   |

*As you can see, this is a total of **514** years of serving the young people of the Great Ohio District.*



*Please extend a Great Ohio District Optimist welcome to the following thirty one new members, who have joined the Great Ohio District Optimist family in the month of August, 2021.*

| <i>New Member</i>    | <i>Club</i>           | <i>Sponsored by</i> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Lynnette S Hovest    | Bft-Putnam Co. Ottawa | Jean Gerdeman       |
| Phillis J Dailey     | Brookville            | Vicki L Mills       |
| Nancy K Burba/Cooper | Brookville            | Vicki L Mills       |
| Mary Helen W         | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Terry M              | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Fujiyo W             | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Alvaro A             | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Robin G              | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Jeanette B           | Castle Strong         | Charter Member      |
| Deanna Nesbit        | Centerville-Noon      | Michael Bevis       |
| Brian Nicholas       | Centerville-Noon      | Larry A Lynde       |
| Jessica Wagner       | Centerville-Noon      | Michael Bevis       |
| Mitchell Bodenmiller | Centerville-Noon      | Thomas F Novak      |
| Sally Martino        | Centerville-Noon      | Michael Bevis       |
| Jane Henry           | Centerville-Noon      | Carol Smerz         |
| Nancy Ferrara        | Centerville-Noon      | Dana Dring          |
| Kathy McAlpine       | Centerville-Noon      | Chris McAlpine      |
| Elizabeth A Elliott  | Dayton Riverdale      | Barbara G Layne     |
| Pierce Brown         | Fairfield             | Larry Meyer         |
| Gussie Jones         | Greene                | Michael Bevis       |
| Mark J Martin        | Kettering Dor-Wood    | James T Ambrose     |
| Toby K Henderson     | Kettering Dor-Wood    | James T Ambrose     |
| David Brandenburg    | Kettering Dor-Wood    | Jack E Steel        |
| Stephen A Ayres      | Kettering Dor-Wood    | Jack E Steel        |
| Chuck Locy           | Lebanon               | Arla R Tannehill    |
| Sharon Nohrer-O'Neil | Monroe-Area           | Darrel F Basford    |
| Brenda M Gilbert     | Paragon-Fairfield     | Laurie Werner       |
| Elizabeth Mccoy      | Paragon-Fairfield     | Angela Goldstein    |
| Tricia McEvilly      | Paragon-Fairfield     | Kimberly A McEvilly |
| Evelyn J West        | Troy Noon             | Thomas Kennedy      |
| Sheena Behr          | Wapakoneta-Noon       | Connie Krites       |

As of September 7, 2021, the Great Ohio District has 65 clubs with a total membership of 2,136 members.

I have read and heard that **EACH** Optimist member reaches an average of 35 youth, which means that the Ohio District Optimist Clubs had the opportunity of reaching approximately 74,760 youth.

*Can you imagine, with more new clubs and members, how this number could soar even higher and higher.*

## **Why do we Push Growth?**

- **To serve More Youth**
- **To Protect the legacy of the Optimists Clubs within their community**
- **To improve the environment and vibrancy of our clubs**
- **For new ideas, new energy, new leadership and new contacts for additional new members**



# ***Fantastic Membership Incentives in place from June 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021***

***(You still have time)***

## **OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL INCENTIVE**

- **\$15 OI Processing Fee has been waived for adding new members to your club membership roster thru September 30, 2021.**
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## **OHIO DISTRICT INCENTIVE**

- **\$25 dues refund from the Ohio District for each new member added between June 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021.**
- **The Ohio District will pay a refund to the clubs for the first 150 new members added throughout the Ohio District.**
- **To receive the incentive your club's total number of members on October 1, 2021 must be greater than your club's June 1, 2021 total number of members. This incentive is to reflect positive growth within your club.**
- **The Ohio District will pay the dues refunds to your club in October 2021.**
- **This incentive is for adding new members to your existing club and does not include new club building.**



*From the deck of the Good Ship Darrel,*

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