



Ky-WV Optimist

Official Newsletter of the Kentucky/West Virginia District
Optimist International



3rd Quarter Meeting Followup Issue

April, May, June 2019

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Deadline for submissions to the next issue of the Newsletter is July 13

2018-19 District Meeting Dates to Remember

June 30 - July 3 - 100th International Convention, Louisville, KY

Aug. 9-11 - Convention, Rough River State Park, KY

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From the Governor

3rd Qtr Meeting was exciting

WOW, WOW, what a exciting and wonderful May District meeting we had. Special thanks to the Optimist Club of Louisville for hosting.



Governor
Jean Smith

Ed and I picked up Optimist International

President Rebecca Butler Mona from the airport on Thursday and went to the Galt House for her to check out info for the OI Convention in Louisville June 30-July 3 2019. Optimists, the time has come to register for the convention and it will be outstanding this year as we celebrate 100 years ago having the convention in Louisville. Check out the web-site for details optimist.org

Friday morning, we went to the Ronald McDonald House to tour their expansion in process with Louisville Club President Mayghin Levine. They will have more convenient rooms for the family of the children while they are in the hospital. Than we were off to the races at Churchill Downs.

Our President had been to Churchill Downs but not to a race. She was very excited and when she saw that Race 8 had been named for her, she just could not believe it. Only ten people could go watch President Rebecca present the trophy to the owner, Gentry Farms. The best part was that President Rebecca had bet on horse number 7, Uber Kirk, to win.

Everybody that came seem to have a great day and dressed for the part. Thanks to all that made the day special.

I feel we had a great District meeting Saturday morning. Thanks to all my Chairs for their wonderful info. Our District Essay winner, Michael Morgan - sponsored by Louisville, was introduced by Bill Rybak, Essay Chair, at our

luncheon and read his Essay.. His parents, Michael and Veda, were present. Thank you, Bill, for a great job this year.

In the afternoon we had a fantastic Oratorical Contest. It was a very close contest. Thank you, Sandy Goodlett, for being such a wonderful chair and thank you, Linda Woodford, co-chair. Please read the article from Sandy in the newsletter.

I have been very busy going to club events. I presented Frances Lee of Radcliff with her 25 member pin. Went to West Charleston, WV, to honor recipients of the Alfred Davis Roberts III Award. Attended the Logan County High School JOI Club 5-k marathon honoring their late President John Hendricks. I was honored to install the members while I was there. Had a fun time at the Vine Grove Optimist Duck Derby. Ducks are like horses; you just never know who will win. I was pleased to be asked to attend by the Optimist Club of Louisville's Club Stock benefiting the Boys and Girls Club of Kentuckiana annual fundraiser.

Special thank you to all the CLUBS in the District for making it possible to be 100% in getting our Officer Elect Reports done in a timely manner. This helps your incoming Governor-Elect know who her officers will be. If you need to make changes later in the year you can always do so. I am sure she will be letting you know about her training at the August Convention.

Our District is down 5 at the current time, so we need to get busy and start adding new members. Also, don't forget you can add a old member at only \$30 for the first year, like teachers and under 30s. Don't forget about Friend of Optimists.

Please call me anytime and invite me to your projects or club meeting. I love to visit and love watching the KIDS.

Promise Yourself, Governor Jean

District News

Oratorical winners selected at meeting

Thank you to all of the clubs in the district who participated in the District Oratorical Program of Optimist International! The following clubs were

represented with contestants: Bardstown, Bluegrass, Dixie, Downtown Louisville, Frankfort, Hikes Point, Jeffersontown, Owensboro, Radcliff, Russellville-Logan County, and Southgate. Elizabethtown had a contestant that was unable to compete on May 11th. The Kentucky-West Virginia district had a great showing of support in the oratorical program, with twelve clubs participating at the club level.

Winners

First Place: Michael D. Morgan - Downtown Louisville - \$2500.

Second Place: Chloe Powell - Jeffersontown - \$1500.

Third Place: Ella Powell - Louisville-Dixie - \$1000.

It was wonderful seeing everyone at the district meeting, and having the opportunity to meet the President of Optimist International, who presented the awards to the students. I appreciate everyone's support of this program and



(from left) OI President Rebecca Butler Mona, Michael Morgan - Oratorical winner, Chloe Powell - 2nd place, Ella Powell - 3rd place, Gov. Jean Smith, and Sandy Goodlet - District Oratorical Chair.

look forward to next year's competition being even bigger and better!

Special thanks to Wayne Dunn, who served as the Sergeant-At-Arms, and to Tom Birch, who served as the Time-keeper. Great Job!!!

As Optimist members, let's contin-

ue to be the inspiration for our young people. Our future generations deserve the best, and as members, we must give our best!

Optimistically yours,
Sandy M. Goodlett
District Oratorical Chair



(Left to right) OI President Rebeccan Butler Mona, District Chair Sandy Goodlet, Michael Morgan (Louisville), David Benning (Hikes Point), Ella Powell (Dixie), Allison Boarman (Owensboro), Chloe Powell (Jeffersontown), Amadis Davis (Radcliff), Oscar Bankemper (Southgate), Lydia Sandefur (Bardstown), Joshua Martin (Russellville-Logan Co.), Kayleigh Dunn (Bluegrass), Madison Cummins (Fankfort), and Gov. Jean Smith.

District project makes difference for Cabbage Patch Settlement House



Here is the tally for donated items, and some photos of the donated goods. This made a HUGE difference and helped us to replenish our food pantry as we go into summer. Summer can be a difficult time for our families, as not having access to school lunches and breakfasts causes food insecurity.

In 2018, we gave out 600+ bags of

food to clients, with an approximate value of \$6,000-\$9,000. Your donations will help to ensure that these families have much needed resources during the summer. Thank you, KY/WV Optimists!!

Mayghin Levine
Director of Programs
Cabbage Patch Settlement House

KYWW Optimist Donations	
6	Beans (cans)
2	Chocolate milk mix
2	Cornmeal mix
5	Fruit (cans)
3	Hand soap
6	Jello
5	Macaroni & cheese
1	Microwave meal
1	Noodles
2	Pasta
4	Peanut butter
1	Ravioli (can)
7	Rice
12	Shampoo/hair products
13	Soup (cans)
1	Soup (packet)
4	Toothpaste
12	Tuna or chicken cans
31	Vegetables (cans)
118	Total # of Items



Essay winner honored

District Essay winner Michael Morgan was presented his winners plaque by OI President Rebecca Butler Mona at the 3rd Qtr meeting. Assisting was Gov. Jean Smith, and District Essay Chair Bill Rybak.

Officer training, workshops offered at OI Convention

Have you ever wanted to attend an OI Convention but either time, distance or cost stopped you? Since this year's OI Convention is in Louisville you are in luck because you can save on time, distance and costs.

Help us celebrate the past 100 years of Optimism while looking forward to the next 100 years.

If you are a Lieutenant Governor, Club President, or Club Secretary, you can attend training for your position. There are a number of workshops also available that you will find informative, interesting and fun.

You will also meet fellow Optimists from around the world, experience world class presenters, and enjoy various types of entertainment.

For more information visit www.optimist.org.

Beth Kerns
Gov.-Elect

Be a greeter at convention

Greeters Wanted!

If you are attending Optimist International Convention in Louisville, KY June 29-July 3, and can spare a few hours we are looking for GREETERS to welcome attendees to the Convention! All you have to do is wave

and smile! We are in need of greeters at the Airport on Friday Saturday and Sunday. Let me know what hours you can work. It's up to you. Any questions, feel free to contact me at 502-229-1797 or email jzeigler227@gmail.com

Judy Zeigler

Club News

W. Charleston recognizes youth for scholastics, citizenship

On May 24th 2019, the Optimist Club of West Charleston had the 25th Annual Alfred Davis Roberts III Awards that recognizes the learning disabled youth w in our community for outstanding scholastic improvement and for excellence in citizenship.

This year's awards were presented to Rachel Snead and Sam Sharp by West Charleston club president James Straight.

This award was created for children who have had to deal with learning disabilities and have strived hard to overcome the adversities that life has dealt them. Maria Roberts is the wife of Al Roberts & a long time member of this Optimist Club & founder of this program. In May of 1994 they went to Italy to visit with family. Shortly after getting there, Al had a massive heart attack that took his life.

Al found out that he was dyslexic when he was 39 yrs old. Now he had an understanding why he was treated unfavorably by his teachers (he was subjected to sitting in the corner of the room on a stool with a dunce cap on). We now know that persons with dyslexia and learning disabilities have to learn differently.

Maria, wanting to do something to honor his memory, consulted with Dr. Barbara Guyer, founder of the Marshall University HELP Program [which helps students overcome their learning disabilities] Maria decided contacted the Greater Kanawha Foundation. It was here that she established a fund to create a greater public awareness of dyslexia and other learning disabilities. She felt that the Optimist Club was an ideal place to implement this Award Program.

Al's daughter, Linda Woodford (also a long time Optimist Club member) took an active role in assisting Maria for the 25 years that we have had the privilege to recognize young people that have to overcome so much but are rarely awarded for their hard work.



James Straight (West Charleston Club President), Maria Roberts (Optimist Club member and founder of the Alfred Davis Roberts III Award), Brenda Rider (Teacher at Elkview Middle School), Jean Smith (KY-WV Optimist District Governor), Rachel Snead (award recipient) with her mother, brother and sister.



James Straight (West Charleston Club President), Maria Roberts (Optimist Club member and founder of the Alfred Davis Roberts III Award), Lori Dubrawka (Founder and Director of the Appalachian Reading Center), Jean Smith (KY-WV Optimist District Governor), Sam Sharp (award recipient) with his parents.

Vine Grove holds Duck Derby



The ducks are off for the run in Brushy Fork Creek for Win, Place or Show in the Vine Grove Optimist Club's 16th Annual Duck Derby. Last duck gets your money back.



A fun day with Optimists and friends cheering on their ducks. Front: mascot Clarence guarding the ducks, and President Sue Baker. Second row: Wendy Chitwood, Tracy Welker, Hannah Welker, Glenn Hinds, Kari Stogner, Governor Jean Smith back Joey Chitwood, Brandon Welker and Debbie Cato.

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.



Rineyville donates to Project Learn Daycare

The Rineyville Optimist Club made a donation to the Project Learn Nonprofit Adult Daycare for those with physical disabilities. It was established in 1955 by Hardin County League of Women Voters. Guest speakers Patty McAnly and Clara Harrison with daycare guest and President Roy Bennett



Radcliff club donates water to Children's Fair

The Optimist Club of Radcliff donated 25 cases of water to the Elizabethtown Children's Fair sponsored by the Hardin County Board of Realtors, Quicksie 98.3 and 94.3 The Wolf. This 24th Annual Children's Fair for kids ages 1 through 12 will be held on June 9th at the Ernie Williams Pavilion at Freeman Lake from 9:30 to Noon. Admission is FREE. Coverage is provided for by Colton's Steakhouse and Grill, the Cecilia Banl, and Hardin County Recycling.

Radcliff awards scholarships



The Optimist Club of Radcliff awarded four scholarships to local high school seniors. Pictured above are: (l-r) Committee chairpersons Jessie Lee and Denise Haynes, Zabriya Gavin, MarykristyEweama, Jasmine Verrett, and Regan Guenther. (Seated) Club President Sam Christy, and committee member Frances Lee. (Photo by Anne Flanagan)

Morehead presents scholarship honoring founding club members

The Optimist Club of Morehead presented Jordyn Williams with the 2019 Morehead Optimist Club Founders Scholarship during the Rowan County Senior High School Awards Program. The \$2,000 scholarship is awarded annually in honor of the Club's founding members. Representing the club was Bill Redwine.



(from left) Mr. Charles Stewart, Band Director; Ms. Noelle Ballor, band member and recipient of the Award for 2019 Frank Ruman, Jeffersontown Optimist member.

J'town presents Ray Anderson Band Award

The "Raymond Anderson Memorial Band Award" was presented by the J-town Optimist Club at the J-town High School's Spring Concert, May 9th.

Following the very enjoyable concert performed by various groups (quintet, jazz&percussion ensemble, symphonic and concert bands) of student band members, the awards were given to the students for participation and for their accomplishments during the year.

This year is the 32nd year that the award has been presented to an outstanding student member of the band. President David Anderson was out of town and could not attend.

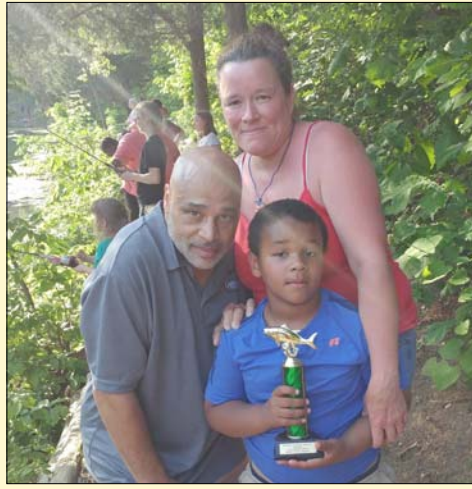
Jr Golf contest set

KY-WV District Jr Golf Qualifier will be held at London Country Club on Monday June 10th, 2019. We are looking for your help of \$50 golf hole sponsor or \$60 sponsoring a young players. Checks can be made out to LLOC (Laurel-London Optimist Club) for the KY-WV District Jr Golf. Mail them to Stuart Maiden 155 Cornett Road Annville, KY 40402. Any Question, you can call me at 606-309-2096.

Radcliff holds fishing derby



Radcliff OPTIMIST Club Kid's Fishing Derby chairman Harry White poses with Jameius Miller who won the Most Fish Caught Trophy at Saunders Springs.



Radcliff OPTIMIST Club Kid's Fishing Derby chairman Harry White poses with Jameius Miller who won the Most Fish Caught Trophy at Saunders Springs.

Russellville youth remembered with 5K run, support to local charities

In December, 2018, the Russellville, Ky. community and Logan County High School mourned the death of "one of its finest young men", John Hendricks. John, a senior who was involved in many scholastic, athletic, and extracurricular activities, was also the Charter President of the newly formed Junior Optimist Club at Logan County High School.

On Saturday, May 25, 2019, at 8:35 a.m. with temperature at 75 degrees, over 200 people signed up to participate in a 5K Run to honor his memory. The Club also wanted the race to not only stand for John's memory but also support the charities that John (and the Junior Optimist Club) had supported during their first year. He was "very passionate about helping others feel important and to help them realize their true potential."

Several businesses and individuals donated moneys, items, and man power to make this event a success.

Included in participants who helped were John's parents, both Grandparents, out-of-town family & friends, and Optimist International club members.

At the end of the race and before medals were handed to the winners, Governor Jean Smith of Optimist International, Ky/Va District, inducted the students into the Optimist Organization and presented them with their pins. Certificates of Membership will be given later.

Also present representing Optimists were Logan County/Russellville Club members: President Clarence Gamble, Secretary Konnie Smith, Treasurer Marie Gamble, Jerry Smith, and Past Gov. Ed Smith.

Laurel-London to hold benefit concert



BLUEGRASS CONCERT

Inside Laurel-London Optimist Sports Complex - London, KY
383 Sinking Creek Road

Friday, July 26, 2019

6:00 PM - Close (Gospel Night)

Saturday, July 27, 2019

10:30 AM - Close

Advanced tickets available from Laurel-London Optimist Club for \$15.00 each (2-day)
\$5.00 each at the gate on Friday
\$15.00 each at the gate on Saturday
12 and under admitted FREE

For Ticket Information:

Call 606-309-0879

www.laurellondonoptimist.org

Visti our Pickin' for the Kids page on Facebook

All Proceeds From This Event Will Benefit Our "Needy Family Christmas Program"

SCHEDULED TO APPEAR*

- The Moron Brothers
- Dave Adkins Band
- Dean Osborne Band
- Laurel River Line
- The Jarvis Family
- New Junction
- One Accord
- High Vision
- The Letterbox Boys
- Salt Creek
- Kentucky Just Us
- Straight Creek
- Tidal Wave Road

Louisville Club celebrates support of Boys and Girls Club of Kentuckiana



Club Stock 1 Night of Peace and Giving sponsoring the Boys and Girls Club of Kentuckiana. The Optimist Club of Louisville has sponsored the Boys and Girls Club for over 50 years. Pictured at the Optimist table is (back row): Tom Kallay, Ed Smith, Maria Raque, Scott Raque, Bee Kallay and Allie Raque front Governor Jean Smith and John Raque. Other Optimist members present were Tom Roussel, Big Event Committee Jennifer Helgeson, BGCK President and CEO, Cory Miller Staff, Board of Directors Bill Rybak and Steve Sternberg. The Boys and Girls Club helps keep kids off the streets by offering fellowship, food and leadership. They have the best record of high school graduates that attend college. We were entertained by kids of the Boys and Girls Club.

Radcliff club supports field trip to Frankfort

Annually the OPTIMIST Club of Radcliff partners with the North Hardin High School Resource coordinator OPTIMIST Ms Leslie Hall in bringing a student group on a Legislative Field Trip to Frankfort, KY. This year Hall brought NHHS senior and trip participant Chasity Thompson to an Optimist meeting to report on the adventure.



NHHS Senior Chasity Thompson

Thompson gave a candid description of their expectations - some of which were probably boring - and their actual reactions during the trip - pretty chill!

There was a total of 15 students on the trip, 11 of whom had never been to Frankfort.

The comments of things they learned and suggestions for future trips were serious and entertaining at the same time. One student reported learning a quote from a famous Kentucky woman "Kentucky women are not idiots, even though they are closely related to Kentucky men."

Morehead supports local Little League with donation



The Morehead Optimist Club recently participated in the "Opening Day" Ceremonies for the Morehead Little League with a check presentation. For the past four years the Morehead club has proudly sponsored the T-ball league for the city. Attached is a photo of our ceremonial check presentation this morning. Shown at left are (L-R): Assistant Director of Parks & Rec Kelly Ford, Jim Fluty, Rhonda Lowe, Mike Mackin, Bill Redwine, Ron Fiel, Morehead Mayor Laura White-Brown with daughter M'Shae.

3rd Qtr Meeting



Friday evening was reserved for the District's usual "Dutch Treat" dining. The meeting, we went to Rafferty's Restaurant.



For many, the District's outing to Churchill Downs a new experience. The highlight of the afternoon was the 8th Race, which was named in honor of OI President Rebecca Butler Mona.



Optimist International President Rebecca Butler Mona was the District's guest for the meeting.



A large crowd of Optimists and guests were in attendance to hear this year's group of Oratorical contestants.

