

Teamwork Tribune

Governor's Corner - Paul Simon 2016-2017



The good times they are a-comin'!

The vibrant 2nd Quarter Conference this past Saturday and the participation of 33 clubs and nearly 140 members and Junior Optimists reflects a very positive trend within the Colorado-Wyoming Optimist District. Let's all build on it.

The turnout reflected the conference theme of membership growth, an issue so vital to the future of Optimism that you will be hearing much more on this topic in the coming months. Let's avoid simply focusing only on our pet projects and expecting others to bring in new members. We all are in this together – working "to make the future brighter by bringing out the best in youth, in our communities, and in ourselves."

Jim Boyd, Optimist International's Director of Strategic Growth and our guest at the conference, pointed out that if each of Optimism's 70,000 members brought in just one new member this year, our ranks would be at 140,000 by year's end. Tell your Optimist stories and engage people – really engage. "The single most important thing we can do is to build relationships," he said.

Just Ask! When was last time you asked someone if they'd like to improve the life of a child by working with you?

Here in our district we've injected fun and variety into our conferences, coupled with crisp tips for club officers and members to take back to their clubs. Past Gov. Abigail Nicholas and her football theme got the ball rolling a few years ago. Distinguished Past Gov. Curt Merrill and I committed to a continuity of what Abigail started and you will see more engagement and innovative thinking when Governor-Elect John Swanborg takes over next October. The same-old, same-old is history; creativity is the new mantra.

Having trouble motivating your club? Try something new. Plan a project with another club. Visit another club. Invite another club to visit you.

Our district's dynamic **Strategic Growth Team** is mapping out a schematic for building new clubs and more New Optimist Welcome (NOW) events. Members of the team will be proactive in particular in working to build clubs and you'll be hearing more about that later. We're also examining how to support your club member retention. While attracting new members is a priority, engaging and keeping existing members is essential. Our district club fitness chair, Tony Carpenter, and the Strategic Growth Team are here for the clubs. Call on them!

Jim said to "invest some human capital in someone else." What great advice. Finally, I encourage you to visit our district Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cowyooptimist and post information and pictures about your club activities.

Yours in Optimism,
Paul Simon
Colorado-Wyoming Optimist District



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District Officers

- Governor: Paul Simon, Monaco South FRACSOC, TIDOC
- Governor-Elect: John Swanborg, Westminster OC
- Secretary/Treasurer: Craig Baldwin, Heather Gardens OC
- Immediate Past Gov.: Curt Merrill, Difference Makers of Aurora OC

Lt. Governors

- Zone 1: Andrew Stanger, Windsor
- Zone 2: Steve Armfield, Loveland
- Zone 3: Donna & Joe Priester, Academy
- Zone 4: Michael Chavez, Monaco South
- Zone 5: Nancy DeNiro, Tamarac
- Zone 6: Jon Wachter, Monaco South
- Zone 7: Mike McMahon, Monaco South
- Zone 8: Sharon Foster, Academy
- Zone 9: Terri Kearney, Arvada Lake Arbor

Important Websites

Optimist International:

www.optimist.org

OI Foundation:

oifoundation.org/

CO/WY District:

www.optimistcowy.org/

CO/WY Brain Bowl:

www.optimistbrainbowl.org/

CO/WY Junior Golf:

<https://sites.google.com/site/cowyooptimistgolf/home>

CO/WY District 2nd Quarter Conference Photo Album



Room packed with CO/WY Optimists



Tyrone Braxton with JOI members and Sheryl Overton



Jim Boyd, OI Strategic Growth 'Guru'



Past Gov, Abigail Nicholas, MC



Gov Simon presents check to Tyrone Braxton to benefit his work with youth



Preparation to pack Goodie Bags for Children's Hospital



Packing Goodie Bags



Packing Goodie Bags



Packing Goodie Bags



Packing Goodie Bags



Packing Goodie Bags



Packing Goodie Bags



Kathleen McBride accepted Goodie Bags for Children's Hospital



Wade Hammond, Wheat Ridge OC shares a story with attendees

New Club Comes to Life - Englewood Optimist Club **Phil Perington**

Welcome to Optimism! The new Englewood Optimist Club, built around Junior Golf and other O.I. Programs, was officially Chartered on Wednesday Dec. 14, 2016 at the Englewood Municipal Broken-Tee Golf Club.

The Inducted were comprised of 18 new and 5 seasoned Optimist members. Past Mayor Randy Penn was inducted as their 1st President and Community Banks Officer, Mark Humphrey was inducted Treasurer.

Many of the new members belong to Broken-Tee Members Clubs. Additionally, Englewood H.S. Golf Team coach Bill Ambron, H.S. Vice Principal Nate Smith, Broken-Tee Golf Manager, Bob Spada, and Englewood Junior Golf Supervisor Ms. Shannon Buccio are among new members.

The Chartering and Induction was conducted by past O.I. Vice-President Sam Keiffer of the Pueblo Club. 13 Optimists from 6 other Clubs were at the gathering as well. Heather Gardens and Monaco South are the Sponsor Clubs, as led by District Secretary/Treasurer, Craig Baldwin, Ed Heller, Lt. Gov. & past President Mike Chavez and past Gov. Phil Perington. Governor Paul Simon, Jr. Golf Co-Chairs Bob Meyer & Joe Marci, among others, were also instrumental with help building the new Club.



President Randy Penn receiving Charter From Governor Paul Simon



Monaco South V.P. Chris Dunphy sat in for Pres. Craig Eley and Donlie Smith represented both Heather Gardens & Monaco South. This is the 4th "special interest club" Monaco South has sponsored or been associated with in the past 4 years. The Englewood Optimists meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday, at 7:30 am at the Broken-Tee Restaurant community room. Breakfast buffet is served. The address is 2101 W. Oxford Ave at S. Santa Fe Drive. Lets all please try to participate in the growth and stability of this exciting new club for our youth.

Tamarac OC Completes Holiday Gift Project **Sandy Middleton**

For The Hollies this year, members of Tamarac were very generous and contributed 21 Walmart and Target gift cards, and the club donated 10 King Soopers gift cards, and a member donated 2 additional King Soopers gift cards for a grand total of \$825. Members also contributed 9 pairs of gloves, 2 shawls, 1 scarf, and 23 stocking caps.

The gift cards and clothes were delivered to The Hollies on December 5. For Holm Elementary School, 20 children received a book, a stuffed animal, and \$30 worth of clothes. Six families received a game and a \$50 gift card to King Soopers. Thanks to Clothes to Kids and the ADA, each family member also received two bags containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, fluoride rinse, comb, tissues, and gloves. We had a request to provide maternity clothes for one of the mothers. Thanks to three of our members, she will be well dressed throughout her pregnancy.

On December 17 in our first major snowfall with wind chill temperatures below zero, thirteen Tamarac ladies came together to make Christmas wishes come true. They all met for a delicious breakfast and then made their holiday deliveries. This is an annual project for Tamarac, one that makes the Holiday difference for many families in the schools we support.



JOI Club Hosts 'You're in Our Hearts' Christmas Carnival For Foster Children

Junior Optimist International club students at Horizon Middle School hosted families from the Fostering Hope Foundation Dec. 10 for the 'You're in Our Hearts' Christmas carnival.

Nearly 100 foster children and their families enjoyed carnival games, food, prizes, gifts, Christmas carols and time with Santa and Mrs. Claus during the carnival, held in the school's gym.

More than three-dozen HMS students participate in JOI club activities. After seeing the carnival flier, several members of the Sand Creek High School JOI club attended the event to help.

"It's enjoyable," said 11th-grader, Chastine Rivera, 17, SCHS JOI club member. "Making an impact on other people is important." Participants earned tickets at carnival games and exchanged them for prizes specific to different age groups.

"We've got prizes for everyone from stuffed animals to electronics," said Chastine. Students raised support for the event by asking for donations of food and prizes from local businesses. The school also helped the JOI club raise money for the carnival.

Isabela Goodridge, 12, now in JOI club for the first time during her seventh grade year at HMS, was working the carnival skee-ball table.



Nursing home residents received Holiday Christmas ornaments from the Keller and Scott JOI Clubs. The JOI members handmade these as special gifts to cheer those seniors in the Nursing Home facility! Special kids do special things for others!!

Horizon MS JOI Club Honored by O.I. Donna Priester

Horizon Middle School JOI Club received the top award from Junior Optimist International for the best project of 2015-16! They worked with Veterans, some wounded, others suffering from other disorders due to their military service.

They spent time with them, played games with them, and when they returned they decided to put together special bags of treats called "Bags of Honor". Inside was a special homemade pillow, crossword puzzles, various sundries, a face towel, and treats/snacks!

This was a project that the members put their hearts into and it was an astounding success. They received the award this year and it was presented to their principal at a recent JOI Club meeting.



District Roster Available Online

The most updated and correct emails of District members is available on the website.

This includes corrections to the District Directory.

Any corrections to your information throughout the year must be reported to OI, the COWY District so you will receive important messages regarding your membership.

Also, See the FORMS page on the district website at www.optimistcowy.org to review the minutes from the 2nd Quarter Executive Committee and the 2nd Quarter Board meeting. You'll also find the district budget, the year-to date financial statement from the 2016-2017 Optimist year and an updated District Policies.



Boulder Evening Optimist Club by Veronica Pease

CHRISTMAS, A Time for Giving

For the past nearly 30 years, the members and spouses of the Boulder Evening Optimist Club have taken preschool children from the San Juan Learning Center in Boulder to the local Target store to purchase gifts for their parents and siblings. This year we had the opportunity to take sixteen children on this shopping expedition.

After purchasing the gifts, the children were taken back to the Learning Center where they, with the help of the Optimists, wrapped the presents for their parents. Upon completion of wrapping the gifts, the children were led by their teacher and Optimists in singing Christmas carols while they waited for the arrival of Santa Claus.

During the singing of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, a commotion was heard as Santa left his sleigh, entered the school and went straight to his favorite seat next to the Christmas Tree. The attentive Children waited patiently as Santa passed out toys to each of them. Photos were taken for the parents of each child receiving their gift. As you may expect, many of the children's expressions were priceless.

We all had a wonderful time as we helped convey the thought to the children that Christmas is a time of giving as well as receiving.



DTC Optimist Club Supports Sweet Dreams in a Bag

Lois Parker, Charles Larsen, Gay Roesch, and wild woman Elizabeth Larsen pack bedding for youth in transition at a "Sweet Dreams in a Bag" event. Gay coordinates DTC volunteers for this activity.



Sweet Dreams in a Bag provides children who are moving out of homelessness and shelters, a pillow, new twin bed sheets, twin fleece blanket, and comforter in a reusable vinyl zippered bag that will fit under the child's bed. If the family has to move – all a child has to do is stuff their bedroom back in the vinyl bag and take it with them. The unique thing about the program is that the child gets to pick their bedding from our inventory and then we personalize the bag with their name. We also include a personalized instructional

booklet about caring for your belongings and helping the child realize just how awesome they are. Also included are a toothbrush and toothpaste and a small age appropriate toy.

CO/WY District Memorial Corner—Honoring Departed Optimists

Past Governor Bob Fretz Passes Away

Longtime Optimist Bob Fretz has passed away. Bob was a past outstanding and distinguished Governor of the Colorado-Wyoming Optimist District (1976-77) and Optimist International Vice President in 1983-84. Services will be at the Kirk of Bonnie Brae Church at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 18 followed by a reception in the fellowship hall of the church, which is at 1201 S. Steele St, Denver.

LUMC Optimist Club Lost 2 Members in November

Bernie Smith joined LUMC Optimist Club in September 2002 as a Charter Member. Bernie passed away in November of this year. She was very active in the club serving as Chair of the Hospitality Committee for 14 years. Bernie also participated in Tri-Star Sport events, fundraisers and volunteering at elementary schools in Littleton. We lost Bernie after her long battle with cancer, but it never slowed down her involvement and she always had a beautiful smile.

Steve Pyles joined LUMC Optimist Club in 2014 and passed in December 2016. Steve jumped right in volunteering to chair Tri-Star events, as Program Chair the last 2 years, volunteering at elementary schools and participating in fund-raisers. Steve's vibrant personality and enthusiasm will be sorely missed.

Optimism Brings Good Friends Together



Optimists love to get together for activities outside of their clubs. This group met through their Optimist associations, and represent 5 Clubs in the CO/WY District. This day they traveled to Breckenridge to enjoy the Annual Snow Sculpture displays. Pictured are Sherry Pearn from Tamarac and DTC, Kent Gloor from MSOC, Classic Car OC, and DTC, Abigail Nicholas from Tamarac, Cheyenne OC and DTC, and Tom and Sheryl Overton from Tamarac, MSOC and DTC!

Greeley Luncheon (Nooner News) by Mike Thacker

TRI-STAR BASKETBALL



Greeley Optimist Club gets a shout-out for their commitment to the Tri-Star Basketball program. Between January 10 and February 23, this club holds 19 tournaments in Greeley elementary schools.

Most are held after school. They reported a great first week with over 120 kids at their first three events, 65 of them at Scott Elementary. They have had excellent turnout from their club and other volunteers from the schools.

3RD QUARTER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2017.
SEND IN INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CLUB HIGHLIGHTS,
PROJECTS, FUND RAISERS OR MEMBERS!

News from Breakfast OC of Windsor Gardens by Donna Bishop, President

Second Quarter

On January 11, 2017 the club presented a check for \$2,560 to the Family coordinator, Connie Payne, at Sable Elementary School in Aurora. The school will use the money for uniforms and supplies for the homeless children who enroll throughout the school year. Optimist raised the funds by selling 350 boxes of Palisade Peaches in the summer of 2016.

December 14, 2016 we charter a JOI club at Place Bridge Academy with fifteen middle school students. In January nine more students submitted applications for membership. Seven adult Optimist are working with the new program including Gary Roll as chairperson and our Optimist school advisor, Jacqueline Chambliss. The JOI members are currently developing ideas for service projects within their school population of 1000 preschoolers through eighth graders with over 50 native languages. The school is a model for educating refugee students.

Historically, Breakfast Optimist Club of Windsor Gardens has provided money to Pickens Technical College in Aurora for them to award scholarships. This year we established a formal Scholarship Committee chaired by Dr. Barbara Medina to announce a 2017 scholarship sponsored by our club. The scholarship announcement and criteria will be posted on the Pickens' Website.

Applications are due March 31, 2017. Dr. Medina and her committee will select recipient(s) by early April.

Our October speaker at the Breakfast Optimist Club of Windsor Gardens was Lisa Gelaude, Manager of Volunteer and Corporate Engagement for Urban Peak which is a local non-profit serving homeless youth between ages of 15 to 24. A continuing need of these young people is for clean, dry socks. Our club will sponsor a "sock shop" during March to help Urban Peak meet this need.

T1DOC Supporting Camp Colorado How Your Club Can Help a Kid - Ron Gustas

The **Type 1 Diabetes Optimist Club (T1DOC)** again this year is working on a project to help send kids with **Type 1 Diabetes (T1D)** to **Camp Colorado** conducted by the **American Diabetes Association (ADA)**. The camp will be held from July 2 thru July 7, 2017 at Eagle Lake camp in the heart of the Pike National Forest located about 9 miles from Woodland Park, Colorado. More info about the Camp can be seen at <http://www.diabetes.org/in-my-community/diabetes-camp/camps/colorado.html>.

Members of the **T1DOC** want to thank those "**Optimist Clubs**" and individual "**Optimists**" who helped send kids to **Camp** last year and also thank those who have **already provided** financial support to send kids to the upcoming **2017 Camp**. Our goal this year is to help at least **30 kids** and their families.

T1D is a very expensive disease with increasing costs for insulin, other supplies, and ongoing medical care. Families, even with insurance have a hard time funding the \$600+ cost they need to send a child to Camp. Because of required around the clock glucose level monitoring most of these kids have no other opportunity to participate in an almost week long summer camp. **Camp Colorado** operates with over 100+ medically trained volunteers providing this 24/7 care.

Your Club can help in any of the following ways:



Underwriting the cost of a "Campership". A donation of \$310 covers about half of a child's cost to go to Camp. Smaller donations can be pooled with those from other donors.

The **T1DOC** will again conduct an on-line auction in May hoping to raise \$10,000 to fund "**Camperships**" and **T1D** research. "**Optimist**" members who can provide auction items are asked to contact the below **T1DOC** members. Gift cards/certificates, travel packages, wine baskets, event tickets, sports memorabilia items, lodging deals, greens fees, etc., etc., etc., make great auction items.

Watch for more information and be an active bidder when the on-line auction runs from May 12th to May 21st. More info to follow.

Individual "Optimists" can also help out by making a tax deductible contribution. Checks should be made payable to the **American Diabetes Association** and note "**2017 Camp Colorado**" on the check memo line. Please mail to Ron Gustas for forwarding to the **ADA**.

International Service Week, Last week in March by Andy McKean

Dear Service Club Leaders,

As members of service club organizations who are committed to making a local and global difference, we know the impact that our work makes to improve the lives of individuals and families in our communities.

Across the globe, we are feeding the hungry, improving health and education, providing new opportunities for women and children, protecting the environment, fostering peace and much more.

As we take on many of the most challenging issues facing us today, we create personal bonds and friendships and connect with other similar organizations - extending our reach. It is in this spirit that we invite you and our fellow service club organizations to join together in an International Week of Service.

To demonstrate our potential collective impact on an unprecedented scale, we are calling on all of our organizations to encourage our respective volunteers around the world to work together with other local service organizations on a

project or event during the last week of March, 2017.

In addition to helping more people and communities in one week than ever before, the International Week of Service will provide an opportunity for us to promote all of our organizations, highlight membership opportunities in our clubs and reinforce the importance of service, civic engagement and individual social responsibility.

The International Week of Service also presents a chance for our members and organizations to forge lasting relationships - further enabling prospects for future joint projects. It is also a great way to showcase who we are and what we do so that we can welcome new members and receive additional community support.

Join us in this partnership as we serve together like never before. For more information and to confirm your organization's participation in this endeavor, please email bob.corlew@lionsclubs.org. You will be contacted shortly with more information.

Sincerely,
Chancellor Bob Corlew, President, Lions Clubs International

Ft Collins Breakfast OC by Don Stumpf

The Ft Collins Breakfast Optimist Club, the Fort Collins Recreation Department, and a local Kiwanis Club have a joint venture known as Toys for Kids. Two events are held in early December, one for younger children (3-5) and one for older kids (5-12). About 260 showed up for the 2 day event this year.





BLACK AND WHITE PARTY

Come join the Wheat Ridge Optimist Club at their 9th annual Wine and Beer Tasting!

Saturday, April 22nd, 2017
6:00-9:00pm

We will be Celebrating at the Wheat Ridge Recreation Center
4005 Kipling Street, Carnation/Columbine Rooms

\$25.00 per person

Includes Wine and Beer tastings, non-alcoholic beverages, hors d'oeuvres, desserts and live musical entertainment. Plus there will be a silent auction and Wine Pull.

Black and White attire is encouraged

Donations go to Wheat Ridge Optimist Club to support local youth programs.

For information call: Ron Benson
(720)879-3927



MARK YOUR CALENDER

AWESOME EVENT

GREAT TIME

GREAT CAUSE

COLORADO WYOMING OPTIMISTS 2016-2017

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

TO ALL OPTIMISTS IN THE CO/WY DISTRICT

GET a \$50 gift certificate to
Maggiano's, Brown Palace, Outback, Broadmoor
Or Your Favorite Restaurant

Just bring in 3 new members from January 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017



HAVE FUN AND WIN OFTEN

- 3 New Members - \$50 Gift Certificate
- 6 New Members - \$100 in Gift Certificates
- 9 New Members - \$150 in Gift Certificates

Awards presentation at the Third Quarter Conference, May 13, 2017 in Aurora

Only guidelines are:

1. The new member cannot be a FOO (Friend of Optimist)
2. A current Optimist cannot be joining another Optimist Club.
3. The new members need to be recorded on the OI membership report by September 30, 2017

SAVE THE DATES!

Fundraisers to support the fight against childhood cancer.

The Chili Cook-Off proceeds are used in Colorado to help save children's lives, celebrate survivors and fight CC.

The Casino Night is CO/WY District's event to support the O.I. Foundation's Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Chili Cook-Off!

Sponsored by Front Range American Cancer Society Optimist Club (FRACSOC)

Sunday, March 26, 2017
12 - 3 pm (cooks set up at 11:30 am)
VFW Englewood
2680 W Hampden Ave
Englewood, CO 80110

Cooks bring a pot of your favorite chili to be judged (red, green, other). Tasters taste it all and pick their favorites!
Prizes are awarded to the top best red, green and other as judged by the tasters
Rootbeer floats, cash bar, music, games, and silent auction.
Money raised is used to help save children's lives, celebrate survivors and join the fight against childhood cancer.

(For information, call Judy Paulson—303-489-1622)

CASINO NIGHT FUNDRAISER

May 12, 2017
6:30 - 9:30 pm

South Metro Denver Realtor Association
7899 S Lincoln Ct, Littleton, 80122
(NE corner Mineral and Broadway)

TICKETS: \$35
Includes \$1000 play chips, food, prizes and fun!

Craps
Blackjack
Roulette
Silent Auction
Cash Bar

All Proceeds Go To Benefit

KEEP CALM AND WIN FREE MONEY

Pre-purchase of tickets appreciated!

Tickets available from CCC Casino Night committee co-chairs, Email: JudyPaulson@frontsac.net or PattyHasty@msm.com

Donations for the silent auction, or sponsors to help offset the costs, please contact Patty Hasty, at pattyhasty@msm.com

CHILDHOOD CANCER CAMPAIGN

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.



CO/WY District, 01

Nancy DeNiro
14740 E Chenango Pl
Aurora, CO 80015

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE