

# CO/WY - The Puzzler

## 1st Quarter Governor's Corner -



Greetings Fellow Optimists!

**Putting the Pieces Together!** As my logo is an arrow moving forward, I'm ready to keep moving our CO/WY District forward, from OI to our Communities!

What a great start we had as we reviewed the Optimist First Quarter! If you were able to attend the **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Virtual Conference**, you would've seen that even a pandemic cannot keep an Optimist down!

One video that was shown highlighted **1<sup>st</sup> Quarter projects** of all our Zones. This, of course, did not include many more programs that all our clubs held. However, you will have another chance, since at our next Conference, we will show many more. I know I was so motivated seeing most of the clubs share what they were still able to do during Covid. There was even a **Dance Contest with a 5 pound Hershey's chocolate bar as the prize!** With all that chocolate, there will need to be a lot more dancing! Congratulations to Lou and Catherine Medal of the Boulder Optimist Club for winning all that chocolate!

**Jesse Ogas, Executive Director/CEO of the Firefly Autism** organization was our main guest speaker. He is also one of the three finalists for the 2021 9News Leader of the Year. Jesse touched many of our hearts and even had a few of our Optimist in tears including myself.

We had the Optimist International **Southwest VP, Carol Hodges** who spoke on **Happiness**, which is also the topic that **President Mark Weinshoff's 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter is focused** on. Finally, last but absolutely not least, the **CO/WY Childhood Health and Wellness Chair Bill Cassell** talked about **Noah's ARK (Autism Rescue Kits)**.

Mark your calendars now for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Conference which is April 24, 2021**. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Conference always includes the **Oratorical Contest and the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)**.

Looking forward to another successful Quarter following our mission:

**With hope and positive vision,  
Optimists bring out the best in our youth,  
our community and ourselves!**



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### District Officers

- Governor: Terri Kearney, Arvada Lake Arbor & Purpose Driven OC
- Governor— Designate: Nicole Powell, Academy OC
- Secretary: Edward Quintrall, Purpose Driven OC
- Treasurer: Craig Baldwin, Heather Gardens OC
- Immediate Past Gov.: Tony Carpenter, Wheat Ridge, OC

### Lt. Governors

- Zone 1: Charlie Pease, Boulder Lunch DC
- Zone 2: Bill Ashbee, Boulder Lunch DC
- Zone 3: Ken Kearney, Arvada Lake Arbor
- Zone 4: Joe Priester, Academy OC
- Zone 5: John Nachter, Monaco South OC
- Zone 6: Mary Grace Wake, Windsor Gardens OC
- Zone 7: Larry Brown, Academy OC
- Zone 8: Kris Gresl, Purpose Driven DC

### Important Websites

- Optimist International:** [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)
- OI Foundation:** [oifoundation.org/](http://oifoundation.org/)
- CO/WY District:** [www.optimistcowy.org/](http://www.optimistcowy.org/)
- CO/WY Brain Bowl:** [www.optimistbrainbowl.org/](http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org/)
- CO/WY Junior Golf:** <https://sites.google.com/site/cowoptimistgolf/home>

# 2020-21 Virtual 1st Quarter Conference In Pictures!



Three...Two...One.....



Governor Terri Kearney 2020-2021



Kaylee Rogers sings "Never Enough" She is autistic.



JOI Governor 2020-2021  
Makenna Weiner



OI SW Region VP—Carol Hodges  
(fresh off the Mardi Gras float!)



Emcee, Past Gov Tony Carpenter

**Optimist International Convention**

**CO/WY Optimist District  
Ambassadors to Int'l Convention**  
Gunar & Charlie Neumann  
Club: DTC  
4473 S. Granby Ct., Aurora, CO 80015  
Res: 303-766-9649  
Cell (Charlie): 720-949-8702  
Cell (Gunar): 303-829-7903  
neumann-charlie@comcast.net  
gunarneumann@comcast.net

For latest Convention info, go to International Convention Website



Killiard House School Choir sing "A Million Dreams" All students have autism.

**Autism Sensory Kit Project**

Bill Cassell, District's Childhood Health & Wellness Chair

**Autism Sensory Kit**

The Autism Sensory Kit is supported by:

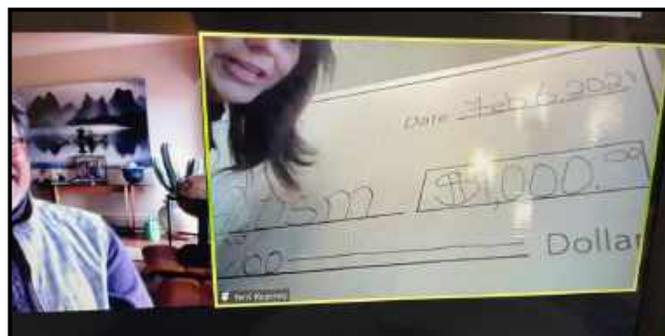
# 2020-2021 2nd Quarter Virtual Conference More Pictures!



Firefly Autism Center for Children & Adults



Jesse Ogas, CEO/ED of Firefly Autism



Gov Terri presenting \$1000 Check to Firefly Autism from CO/WY District



Kodi Lee autistic youth who won America's Go Talent



Fun "Dance Contest" to Blake Shelton singing 'Footloose'



Dance contest winners Catherine and Lou Medal with their PRIZE!

## Follow-up For Shriner's Hospital Donations Charlie Neumann

**Shriners Donation:** Proud to report that the final tally of our donation was **\$3025.00**. On behalf of Shriners I want to thank all of you for this tremendous donation. A letter was received 11/9/20 from **Kevin Martin, Administrator at Shriners**, thanking the district for the donation earmarked for its Salt Lake City Location. He stated "Than you sincerely for helping us sustain our mission to care for children and their future.

## Northwest Denver OC Adopts Families on Giving Tree Donna Lucero

The Optimist Club of Northwest Denver **adopted 6 families from Tre-vista Elementary's Giving Tree**, with gifts for every member of the families, including much needed gift cards, supplement food, supplies, and most important of all, a very happy holiday!

The club **adopted this school 10 years ago and has given thousands of books to the children!**

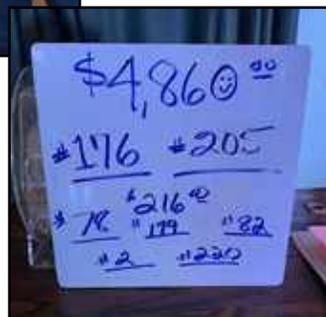


## NW Denver OC Holds Virtual Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle

The Optimist Club of Northwest Denver met the quarantine fund-raising challenge with a **Virtual Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle**, netting \$10,353.75 for the youth of North Denver!



Thanks to **Gene Lucero** for the 'virtual location' as required by the Secretary of State, and **Joe DeRose** (not shown), raffle manager with assists from **Dino Lombardi** and **Jim Cimino**, the live raffle was celebrated on Zoom.



With a virtual spaghetti dinner, expenses were minimal for a greater benefit to the Northwest Denver Club's youth and youth programs. **5 winning tickets totaling \$10,800**. Our loyal donors and fans missed the gala dinner but expect to be back in 2021.

## Follow-up For Shriner's Hospital Donations

Charlie Neumann

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## Optimist Clubs See Glass Half Full—Even in a Pandemic Says OI President Mark Weinsoff in the Wall Street Journal

Leaders of organization work to stay upbeat in face of declining membership, litany of dreadful news. The Optimist International club hasn't survived 110 years, two world wars, a Great Depression and untold other miseries and disasters by dwelling on the dark side of life.

Even so, the past year has been a trying one for the pre-eminent glass-half-full organization. There has been a deadly global pandemic, deep political discord and, perhaps most vexing for the club itself, a membership that is "aging out," or, as a pessimist might put it, "dying off."

**The club's president, 63-year-old retired banker Mark Weinsoff, still found reason for some optimism when reached a few days after last month's deadly riot at the U.S. Capitol. "Whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger," he said.**

**Mr. Weinsoff sees it as his club's mission to keep optimism alive and thriving in the face of the litany of bad news. "When bad things happen," he said, "a pessimist reasons that 'this always happens to me and it will happen again.' An optimist says, 'OK, now what do I do to move forward?'"**

Optimist International was founded with a mission to guide "delinquent boys" to the right side of the tracks. Women were first admitted in 1987. The umbrella organization, based in St. Louis, oversees some 2,500 individual chapters around the world.

**The entire article can be found in the February 5, 2021 issue of the Wall Street Journal.**

## DTC OC Make Thanksgiving Dinner for the Griffith Center

Despite Covid, DTC OC was able to support the **Griffith Center Thanksgiving Meal this year**. Gunar and Charlie went on Monday to deliver the goods: Turkeys were donated by **Lois & Wes, George Buzick and Irene & Jeff Gartz**, Hams donated by Hickory Baked Ham, Pumpkin Pies donated by **Charlie & Gunar, (pictured)** and DTC purchased Bag of Potatoes, Boxes of Stuffing, Cans of corn, and bread. **Chef Page & Jaden Richardson** who is the new Event Coordinator were so happy and thankful for the generous meal donation. Chef Page and his team prepared the food and served the kids and staff on Wednesday Nov 25.



## **JUNIOR OPTMISTS ARE ALIVE and CREATING!!** Donna Priester

**Update:** The CO/WY Optimist District believes in JOI! There may be no members so far, but that is okay with OI this year! We'll rebuild when the time comes! If sponsoring Optimist Clubs have done their job in the past, we have sent Optimistic students/members to their families and their communities to continue to spread the idea of caring, helping, and continuing to make a difference wherever they can.

Many schools have decided that due to COVID no clubs may hold meetings. This has been since the beginning of the year and may last all year. However, our JOI members are hoping that Spring will allow some latitude in this policy. Some of our High School Clubs have met using Zoom and the **District Governor, Makenna**, has been holding a District Zoom meeting on the **1<sup>st</sup> Wed. of each month** beginning in September. It is at 4:30 PM and all are welcome to join! So far we have mostly had adult Chairs and Advisors and encourage all to let the kids know that they are welcome!!

Makenna is inspiring ALL of us to keep Optimism going in the face of challenges. Each month there is a report of what some of our JOI members have been doing or are planning. **Emma, our Governor Elect has been great with ideas!** This can be just as relevant to adult Optimist Clubs! An example is that Makenna suggested that all of us keep in touch with the local **Ronald McDonald House** in your area. She did some research and found that in Denver, outsiders could not volunteer. However, in **Colorado Springs, we could prepare a meal.** Only 3 volunteers were allowed and consequently 2 bought food, delivered it to the Ronald McDonald House, and 3 went to cook! It was a joy to all, to know that they made life better for those who are dealing with challenges at Children's Hospital! **This is the "spirit" of JOI and our future leaders.**

### **Suggestions for adults from sponsoring Optimist Clubs: Keep the JOI Club Charters alive by paying the Registration Fee for the year. (\$60 to OI)**

Touch base with advisors, teachers, administrators, parents, Optimists, that have worked with the JOI Clubs or organization in past years and ask how they are faring and remind them of how important they are to Optimism!

If you have any JOI member relationships, contact them and see what they are doing to "make a difference" in their own lives, the lives of family and friends, and any other community people that they meet. (Smiling, talking, asking about another person's life can be done with store clerks, neighbors, and family members.)

Keep talking about the youth and their need for JOI as we move forward and are finally able to gather together. We may be starting over with new Club members, but that is okay! **Our job is to create LEADERS, CARING CITIZENS, and SERVICE MINDED YOUNG PEOPLE!**



## Boulder Evening OC Holds Annual Christmas Event Joseph Mesoros

On the morning of December 18 we successfully held our **Annual San Juan Learning Center Christmas Event**. The students each were given a **gift bag** which included a **book, a \$25.00 Target gift card for the family, a coloring book and crayons, candy canes and virus masks for all the children and teachers**. Along with that we included a letter from the Club.

We took many pictures unfortunately there are too many to include in this newsletter. It is difficult for any photos to capture the magic and spirit of the children and what an absolute delight to see how lovely the little girls were dressed for the occasion and how well behaved and respectful all of the kiddos were. Santa had them mesmerized and his helpers did such a super job with all of the special items gathered for the gift bags.



## Boulder Evening OC Helps Out at the Garden to Table Catherine Medal

The Boulder Evening Optimist Club helped harvest food to support The Garden to Table non-profit organization, which establishes and maintains elementary school gardens in Boulder. These gardens teach the students sustainably by having them plant, grow and harvest the food to be included in their lunch.

**Lou and Catherine Medal and Marysia Bachman** are seen working at Foothills Elementary in Boulder. Since the school was closed due to Covid, all the food was donated to a food bank.



**Judy Heinz** and other members prepare beds for winter at Lafayette Elementary School



## Tamarac OC at Colorado Feeding Kids Linda Williams

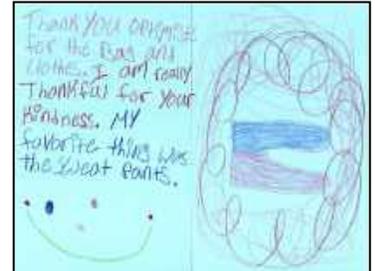
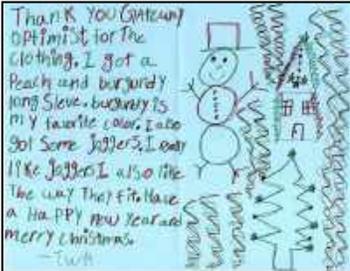
What has 16 hands and wears a stylish hair net?...It's a group of eight Tamarac ladies putting together pasta packets to be included in meals for kids, food banks, disaster relief. **Karen Gutjahr, Jeanette Thompson, Judy Reed, Joyce Laman, Dee Carsten, Mary Gelb, Nancy O'Brien and Linda Williams** Colorado Feeding Kids on November 21, 2020.

In assembly-line fashion they labeled, measured, weighed and packed the dry ingredients for tomato basil pasta. **[Note:** Throughout the months, Colorado Feeding Kids packs seven different highly nutritious dry casserole meals. They cost only \$0.25 meal and each meal is vitamin fortified and easy for to prepare.]



## Gateway OC Supports Denver Children's Home Tom Mehl

Gateway Optimists has for years supported the Denver Children's Home. It is their longest running charity effort. Because of reduced donations to the Home earlier this year, GOC donated a catered meal to take some of the load off for the Home Staff and their budget. Then, as we have always done, we donated Christmas gift bags for every kid in residence. Attached are some Thank You notes from the kids.



## Gateway and Wreaths Across America Sheila Woolfolk

REMEMBER the Fallen. . .HONOR those who Serve.. .TEACH our children the value of Freedom.

### Remembering and Honoring:

Thanks to all who helped the Gateway Optimist Chapter succeed in our annual fundraiser. Our chapter provided over 280 wreaths for the purpose to remember and honor US Veterans laid to rest at Fairmount Cemetery. With social distancing practices in place, the Civil Air Patrol initiated the ceremony with volunteers subsequently assembling in designated areas for wreath laying. Multiple sponsoring groups participated in selling and laying wreaths with the purpose to honor laid to rest veterans.



Fairmount Cemetery Veterans' Section  
Over 5,000 US veterans graves exist on the grounds.



Gateway OC members participating with wreaths laying:  
Tom Mehl (Gateway Pres), Fran Krech, Bill Reily, Sheila Woolfolk, Bob Krech, Ev Sequeira, and Marv Montgomery. Not pictured, Ruth Reily.

Read on for a sampling of Prairie Middle School students in Aurora, CO expressing appreciation in learning the mission of Wreaths Across America 2020.

Dear Hero,

My name is Mirakel, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student. First off, the only reason we live in a country free is because of people such as you. In my opinion, I think there should be more to honor Veteran's sacrifices. Even if I will never know what you have gone through, I will dearly respect it with all of my heart. With endless gratitude, Mirakel

Dear Veterans,

Thank you for serving our country! Thank you so much for doing your best to protect our country. I am thankful that you were brave enough to fight in battle so that the United State of America could be safe. Today, I am honoring you because of your special work that you have done. Thank you for your service and for keeping our country safe and being brave. Thank you so much for reading this and have a nice day. Sincerely, Egypt

## Boulder Luncheon Member Operates a Non-Profit **Bill Ashbee**

Boulder Luncheon member, **Dee Marie**, is a Yoga instructor. She operates a non-profit company called **Calming Kids**. The mission of this company is to reduce violence and bullying in our schools using yoga techniques. This is accomplished for the most part by training the teachers at various schools and they in turn teach the students. The Boulder Luncheon Optimist Club supports Dee financially for this great endeavor.

The following are some examples.

**Girl Teens in Palestine.** The public schools teach boys separate from girls. We worked with teaching Kindergarten - HS students during 2 trips to the West Bank (Dee is picture front/center in this photo)



"Teaching Peace in

**A Teacher Training in Puerto Rico.** We had a second Teacher Training planned in PR - cancelled due to COVID



**Pre-school in Boulder, Colorado.** We worked with the preK & elementary age diverse (mostly Latino) students (Dee is picture front/center in this photo)



**the Middle East" Boy Teens in Palestine.**

### **CALMING KIDS YOGA**

[calmingkids.org](http://calmingkids.org)

[facebook.com/calmingkidsyoga](https://facebook.com/calmingkidsyoga)

## Lake Arbor OC Bicycle Program February 2021 **Terri Kearney**

The Lake Arbor Optimist Program has **4 club volunteers who recycle bicycles for the Arvada, and Commerce City communities.** Approximately 10 different schools, as well as two homeless programs benefit from the program. **Used bicycles are refurbished and provided to students and homeless residents who do not have a bicycle.**

Since June of 2020 163 bicycles have been donated to schools, homeless programs in Arvada, Precious Child, and other community members (primarily elementary, middle school, and high school, and college students).

Recently the **Lake Arbor Optimist Club has partnered with the Golden Optimist Club** to provide bicycles to young people and families at the **Elevado Trailer Court** in Arvada, Colorado.



## Oratorical Contest Goes Virtual for 2021 Steve Gorrell

The Oratorical Contest is open to students who have not reached the age of 19 before October 1, 2020, and are not enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution.

This year's topic is: **"Healing the World with Optimism"**

All contest will be Combined Gender. Clubs will send their 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners to the Zone Contest. The Zone Lt Governor's will set the time, date and location for the Zone Contest.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Zone winners will then go to a Regional Contest.

1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Regional winners will the go to the District Finals being held April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Conference.

The District 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and then will be able to go to the Regional/World Championships Contest at St Louis University in St Louis, MO. Where the possibility to win up to additional 20,000 in scholarships. 2<sup>nd</sup> place District winner will receive a 1,500 scholarship and 3<sup>rd</sup> place District winner will receive a 1,000 scholarship.

The Club contest must be completed on or before March 14,2021.

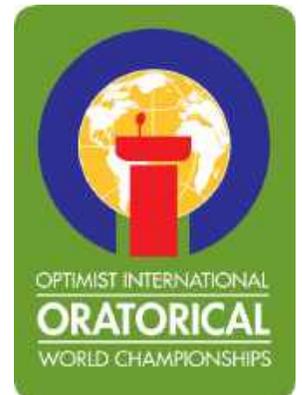
The Zone contest must be completed on or before March 28,2021

The Regional contest must be completed on or before April 11,2021

The Club will pay a onetime entry fee of 20.00 per entrant that goes to the Zone contest payable to the District.

All contestants must speak on the official topic in the first sentence of the speech. Timing will begin with the first spoken word.

You can go to [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org). Programs-scholarship contests-oratorical contest. From there you can download the rules and application for the contest.



***Now is the time to contact your local schools to get them involved in the Oratorical Contest!***

If you have any questions, contact your Lt Governor or me. Steve Gorrell, District Oratorical Chairperson 2020-2021 [Sgorrell1@yahoo.com](mailto:Sgorrell1@yahoo.com) 303-920-2366

## Tamarac Awards Lifetime Achievement Award to the Youngs

The Optimist board recently voted to give **Claire and John Young** a **Lifetime Achievement Award** for their support of our club. Along with a plaque, we also donated **\$100 to the Friends of the Fine Arts - Choral Department at Cherry Creek High School** in their honor. Both of their daughters were very active in the **Girls'21 and Meistersingers** choral groups.

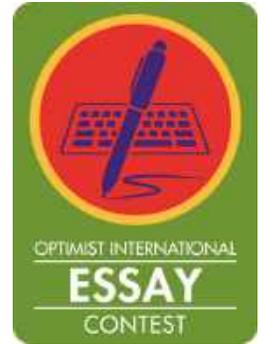
On Saturday, November 28, **Sandy Middleton and Cindy Eley** presented the award to Claire and John "For their unwavering support of the Tamarac Optimist Club since its inception in 1993. **Their vision, inspiration and leadership have led to the success we enjoy today serving the youth of our community.**"



## Essay Contest Phil Perrington

### \$2,500.00 OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL Student Essay Contest

The CO/WY Optimists are proud to announce their annual Student Essay Contest for all Denver area students, both private, public and home schooled. This is an opportunity for student entrants to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live. This years theme is, "Reaching Your Dreams by Choosing Optimism"



Entrants are allowed 700-800 words for their personal essay. The Contest is open to any student below the age of 19 Before October 1, 2021. The 1st Place prize is a \$2,500.00 Scholarship grant from the CO/WY Optimists. The Winner will receive a Scholarship grant letter from the Optimist International Foundation for use at the College or School they choose to attend.

#### Entries must be submitted by February 28, 2021 TO:

CO/WY Optimist Essay Contest c/o **Philip Perrington, District Chair @ 5353 W. Dartmouth Ave. Suite 509- Denver, CO. 80227**. The Winners will be judged and qualified by Local Clubs and announced April 10, 2021.

For a copy of the Essay Contest application: [optimist.org/forms/20-21\\_essay\\_application.pdf](http://optimist.org/forms/20-21_essay_application.pdf) or at [www.optimistcowy.org](http://www.optimistcowy.org). **You may also call 303-668-7031** to locate a local Optimist Club that will assist in getting student entrants qualified and enrolled. Optimist Clubs include Littleton, Monaco South, Tamarac, Lakewood, Wheat Ridge, Arvada, Westminster, University Hills, Heather & Windsor Gardens, South, N.E & N.W Denver, Aurora and Mile High(103 years Old), Boulder, Erie, Lafayette, Ft. Collins, Loveland, Windsor, Long Longmont, Ft. Morgan, Colorado Springs, Cheyenne, Pueblo and Alamosa.

The Essay Contest is an excellent venue for student expression and participation, not to mention the opportunity for earning Scholarship money for the future. There is a lot going on in the world today and it is important students voices be heard. The Mission of the Optimist Organization is "Service to Youth, making your dreams come true".

Entry forms can be accessed at <https://www.optimist.org/member/scholarships3.cfm>

**SAVE THE DATE for the  
3rd Quarter Virtual Conference  
April 24th - Includes Oratorical  
and CCDHH Contests**



## 2021 Optimist Brain Bowl Virtual Tournament Gunar Neumann

The Optimist Brain Bowl is an academic team competition for middle school students throughout the CO/WY Optimist District. Under normal circumstances, three regional in-person contests are held on different weekends, followed by a championship in-person contest in which the top six teams at each grade level in the three regional contests compete for bragging rights. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we could not hold in-person contests, nor could we perform in-person training of our volunteers.



The Brain Bowl Committee began exploring options in late summer of 2020, and ultimately decided to hold a virtual **Brain Bowl tournament on 30 JAN 2021 using the Google Meet On-line platform**. One of the reasons we selected Google Meet was that many schools already use this tool, so the majority of the contestants were familiar with it. We also used Google Meet to train our readers and scorekeepers. In fact, one of our readers joined us from St. Louis, MO.

We were able to accommodate every school that wanted to participate and as a result, **44 Teams comprising 205 students from 20 schools participated in this event**. We had teams from as far away as Casper, WY; Walden, Merino (near Sterling), and Canon City. **First place honors went to Stargate 6A in Thornton, Summit 7A in Boulder, and Summit 8A in Boulder**. All the results are posted on the Brain Bowl website at [www.optimistbrainbowl.org](http://www.optimistbrainbowl.org).

Overall, the event was a success, in spite of some technical issues we faced. Since we had anticipated two of the biggest technical glitches we ran into, we were able to handle those glitches without major difficulties. **We staffed twenty-two competition rooms** for each of the four rounds of preliminary contests in the morning, and then we staffed the afternoon elimination rounds of 12 and 6 and 6 rooms “as usual.”

We heard over and over again from the team coaches **how grateful the students and parents were** to have a Virtual Brain Bowl this year. Here are some of the comments we received:

**From Chinook Trail MS:** “Brain Bowl is such a highlight for these kids in this crazy semester (last week, one sixth grader said that Brain Bowl practice day was her favorite day of the week).”

**From Stargate MS:** “We appreciate very much all your heroic efforts in making this happen. It would have been so much easier for you cancelling this year's competition. We are very **thankful to you all.**”

**While it would have been easier to just cancel the Brain Bowl for 2021, we were determined that as Optimists and in keeping with Gov Terri Kearney's theme of “Putting the Pieces Together”, the Brain Bowl Committee would put on a virtual contest for the youth.** Although we tried to keep this contest as close as possible to the in-person tournaments, we ended up with a completely different event. It took a lot of people coming together over 6 months to plan and implement this contest, but we made it happen. **On behalf of the Brain Bowl Committee, I thank all of the volunteers for their efforts and hard work to make this event a success.**

**Gunar Neumann** [gunarneumann@comcast.net](mailto:gunarneumann@comcast.net) (email)

2021 Optimist Brain Bowl Trainer

303-766-9649 (home)303-829-7903 (cell)

## 2021 DISTRICT JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM Bob Meyer



The 2021 CO/WY District Junior Golf Program is planning for the June **District Qualifiers**. The qualifiers will be held as follows:

June 4	Boys 10 – 15	Flatirons Golf Course, Boulder
June 10	Boys 16 – 18	Flatirons Golf Course, Boulder
June 18	Girls 10 – 18	Overland Golf Course, Denver

The junior golfers are **competing for a total of 70 spots in the 2021 Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (commonly referred to as THE OPTIMIST)** to be held in three phases from July 14 – 29 at Doral Resort – Miami. Historically, we have paid \$ 1,000 to each of the seven age group winners and \$ 500 to the other qualifiers.

To provide that financial assistance and to run the qualifiers, we need to raise \$50,000. Our fundraisers include hole and participant sponsorships at the qualifiers (a Sponsorship Opportunities flyer is included elsewhere in this newsletter), an **adult golf scramble tentatively scheduled for May 18 at Saddle Rock Golf Course in Aurora**, and a **silent auction with donated foursomes from some of the premier Denver-area golf courses**.

**In addition to our fund-raising activities, we're looking for volunteers to assist at the qualifiers. You don't need to be a golfer to volunteer.** You just need to be able to enjoy the outdoors and help kids.

The District Junior Golf website is at <https://sites.google.com/site/cowyoptimistgolf/> and is updated regularly. Please check out the website for additional information about the District Junior Golf Program and THE 2021 OPTIMIST.

**The Junior Golf Tri-chairmen are ready and willing to come to any Club in the District to tell you more about the District Junior Golf Program and THE 2021 OPTIMIST.** After THE 2021 OPTIMIST, we will be able to bring along junior golfers who participated in that event. An OI-produced video from THE 2018 OPTIMIST is at <https://youtu.be/satUCmowODc>.

CO/WY District Optimist Junior Golf Tri-chairmen

Ron Cisco	<a href="mailto:ciscoron@msn.com">ciscoron@msn.com</a>	303-794-0749
Joe Marci	<a href="mailto:jmarci899@gmail.com">jmarci899@gmail.com</a>	303-771-3748
Bob Meyer	<a href="mailto:meyerrob@comcast.net">meyerrob@comcast.net</a>	303-919-4532

**Printable application for the Scramble is on the next page....**

**SAVE THIS DATE!!**

Your Club's Fundraiser Flyer could be on this page in the 3rd Qtr

**COLORADO-WYOMING DISTRICT  
OPTIMIST GOLF SCRAMBLE  
FUNDRAISER FOR COLORADO-WYOMING DISTRICT  
OPTIMIST JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM**

**HELP US SEND 70 JUNIOR GOLFERS TO THE  
2020 OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF  
CHAMPIONSHIPS AT TRUMP NATIONAL DORAL**

**WHERE:** Saddle Rock Golf Course, 21705 E Arapahoe Rd, Aurora CO

**WHEN:** Tuesday, June 2nd -- 7:30 am shotgun start

**PRICE:** \$ 125 per player

**Includes:** Green Fee and Cart  
Lunch  
Team Prizes  
Closest to the pin on all par 3's  
Longest drives (men's and women's)  
Longest putt  
Donation to CO-WY District Junior Golf

If you have a foursome, you can enter as a team, or we will establish teams based on individual entries.

Please make your \$ 125 checks payable to "Optimist Junior Golf" or to "Optimist International Foundation" if you would like a tax deduction from a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization and mail the checks and this entry form to:

Joe Marci  
4173 S Rosemary Way  
Denver CO 80237

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Optimist Club: \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Team Members:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

We need the support of all Optimists and their friends to make this a successful tournament. There will be a silent auction for some valuable items donated to Optimist Junior Golf.

If you have any questions, please call Joe Marci at 303-771-3748, Bob Meyer at 303-919-4532, or Ron Cisco at 303-794-0749.

## Awards & Achievement Awardee for "Zoom Fundraiser"

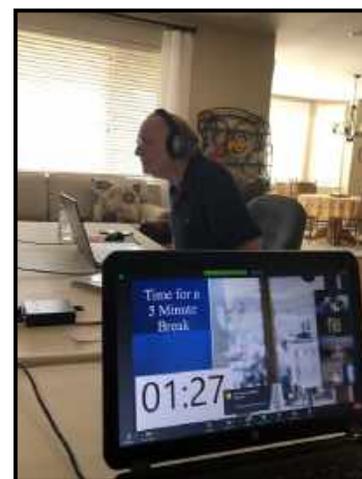
Our 2nd Quarter winner for the category "Zoom Fundraiser" was the **Purpose Driven Club** nominated by **Lt. Gov. Kris Gresl**. The club was awarded a \$50.00 check.

On Dec 12, 2020 they held a virtual **Wine Tasting Fundraiser with the Bookcliff Winery** out of Boulder. The club sold tickets for the wine tasting which consisted of an invitation to the zoom event and (5) 2 ounce samples of wine. Bookcliff then went through each sample (on zoom) and gave the history of their winery. **Purpose Driven raised \$400.00** for the event. Not bad for the first time out! Way to go Purpose Driven.

Submitted by: Charlie Neumann/Awards & Achievements Chairperson

## Who Was That Man Behind the Curtain?

The technical "brain" behind the 2nd Quarter Virtual Conference was **Curt Merrill, past CO/WY District Distinguished Governor, and member of DTC and Difference Makers Optimist Clubs**. Curt and wife Trish coordinated all the technical aspects of Zoom, audio visuals, including videos of Kaylee Rogers singing, club video accompanied by Ringo Starr, breaks with Bob Seger and Elton John, the Killard House School Choir, a dance contest with Blake Shelton, and last, but not least, autistic teen Kodi (winner of AGT) playing the piano and singing! Whew, Curt! We can't thank you enough for sharing your talent with us!!



## 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

