

CO/WY - Battle Bulletin

2nd Quarter Governor's Corner - Nicole Powell 2021-2022



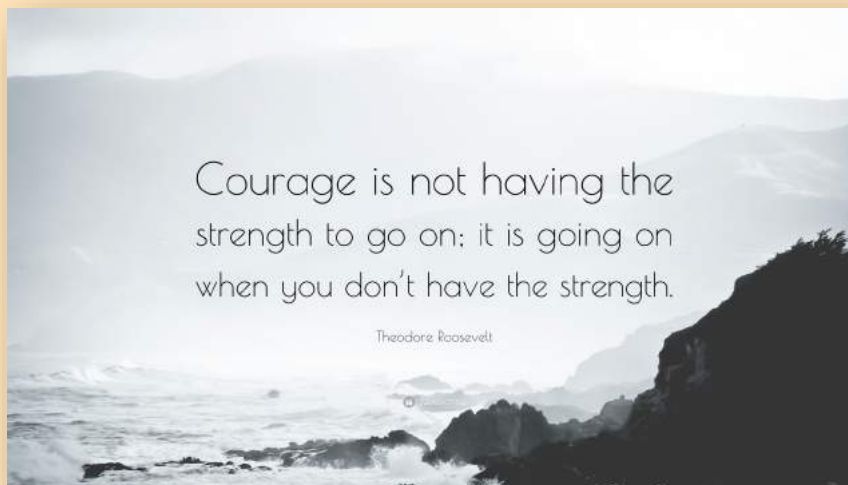
Greetings Fellow Optimists!

I am continually Amazed at the amount of work and dedication that this District has been doing even during these interesting times. You have continued to Fight the Good Fight and not given up on our kids, our communities or each other.

Governor's Challenge: For those of you who have found this time difficult and need a little bit of inspiration, I have a challenge for you! I would like our district to flood Colorado and Wyoming with Gratitude! I would like to send out Thank You cards and letters to First Responders, firefighters, police officers, military, teachers and all the hard workers who have kept this country running. I want them to know that the Colorado/Wyoming Optimist District has not let their sacrifices go unnoticed.

This is an simple challenge that any Club or Optimist can do together or on their own at home, but still have an amazing impact! You can drop off your Thank Yous at your local institutions or if you're not ready to go outside just yet, all you need is a simple stamp. "Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." ~ Marcel Proust

Let us continue to share Love, share Faith, share Joy, share Hope and share Optimism! Keep Fighting the Good Fight!



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District Officers

- ☐ Governor: Nicole Powell, Academy OC
- ☐ Secretary/Treasurer: Craig Baldwin, Heather Gardens OC
- ☐ Immediate Past Gov: Terri Kearney, Arvada Lake Arbor & Purpose Driven OC
- ☐ Gov-Elect Tony Carpenter, Wheat Ridge, OC

Lt. Governors

- ☐ Zone 1: Linda Chasson, Cheyenne OC
- ☐ Zone 2: Bill Ashbee, Boulder Lunch OC
- ☐ Zone 3: Phil Perington, Monaca South & DTC
- ☐ Zone 4: Michael Chavez, Monaca South OC
- ☐ Zone 5: John Wachter, Monaca South OC
- ☐ Zone 6: Mary Grace Wake, Windsor Gardens OC
- ☐ Zone 7: Kevin Keilbach, Pueblo OC
- ☐ Zone 8: Ron Benson, Wheat Ridge OC

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>

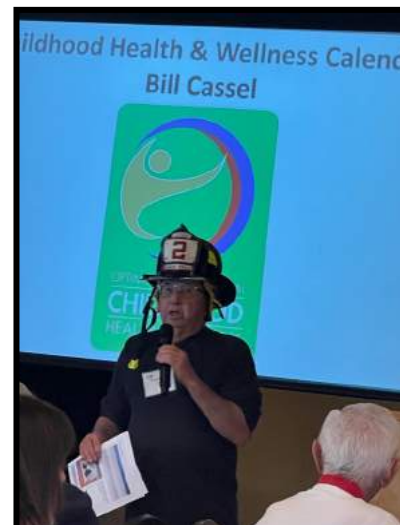
2nd Quarter Conference Recap and Photos



L-R: Jean Baldwin, Gov Nicole, Craig Baldwin, Terri Kearney



Right: Teddy Roosevelt
aka Kurt Skinner



Importance of Optimism Panel Moderated by Linda Williams



Fund Raiser - Beer and Wine Pull



Contest winners: _____ in his chicken hat
and Terri Kearney hoodie says : I'm not arguing, I'm
simply explaining why I'm right...



Contestants in the favorite hat and hoodie contest

2nd Quarter Awards Charlie Neumann

Fundraiser of the Quarter: Submitted by Tom Mehl/Gateway Optimist Club

They club has taken a leadership role in spearheading "Wreaths Across America" drive for Fairmount Cemetery in Denver it benefited their club and their community They obtained sponsorship for over 2,100 balsam wreaths and accomplished the goal of recognizing, saluting, and laying a wreath for each veteran laid to rest. Great job Gateway Optimist Club!

Rookie of the Quarter: Gateway OC Nominated by Pres. Tom Mehl. Karen Gold joined in 2021. She has, in her first year, done an extraordinary job in working to improve and position our club for growth and also to increase our impact in our community. She serves as our Technical Guru to bring us 20th Century (Geezers?) in the 21st Century. She coordinates the Quarterly Newsletter and organizes upcoming Game Night at Sertino's. Karen supports club in every way possible. If we could clone her cheerful, caring, optimistic attitude we would only succeed in our efforts to grow our club. Karen congratulations on being an outstanding Rookie for Gateway.

Rookie of the Quarter: Nominated by Past Gov. Terri Kearny Lillie Smallwood of the Purpose Driven Optimist Club. Her enthusiasm to join the club was amazing. After her first meeting she was already planning a fundraiser. By her 2nd meeting she brought in a new member. Every Optimist Club deserves a member like Lillie Smallwood. Her enthusiasm is contagious.

Rookie of the Quarter: Tamarac Nominated by Cindy Eley Tamara Kirch joined in 2021 and immediately started getting involved. Tamara helps with the sign-in table before each meeting. She volunteered a huge amount at the Monaco South Christmas tree lot helping to price the trees and load them into client's cars. She is a true asset to the **Tamarac OC**.

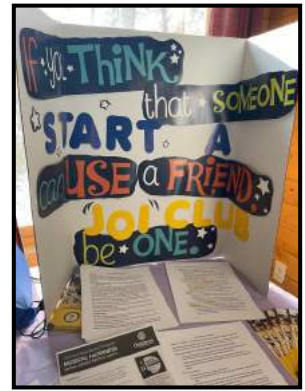
Optimist of the Quarter: MSOC Nominated by Pres. Tom Kramis Pat Bush has been instrumental in their biggest fundraiser their "Tree Lot. He gladly took over the role of Treasurer for Monaco South and is doing a great job. Your club is grateful for the work you have done. Congratulations Pat Bush!

Fun-raiser Project at 2nd Qtr Conference - Led by JOI Club Members

Conference attendees brought supplies to construct toys for cats and dogs. It involved braiding, and tying knots with strips of t-shirt fabric and fleece. The donations included things for future OI projects! More pics page 4...



More Fun-raiser pics....



Pueblo Optimist Club Sponsors Teen 180 Award

Optimist Club of Pueblo has a signature youth project, the **Teen 180 Award**. We invite the counselors from every middle school in Pueblo County to nominate 2 students that have turned things

around. These kids typically face ongoing challenges at home, at school, and personally...

They are the kids that rarely receive accolades. Yet, we acknowledge their turnaround with some public praise and a personalized plaque, and they give us some of the most satisfying smiles we ever get to see..



Members with Jose Gonzalez



Members with Isabella Gonzales

Optimist International Foundation Update Jeanette Thompson, District DFR

Here is an update on the COWY District Foundation donations as of February 28, 2022.

- 55 'Dime-A-Day' \$36.50 donations.
- 16 new or renewing 'President Club' \$250 donations.
- 1 'Women's Philanthropy' \$100 donation.

No donations "In Honor, In Memory, Veteran Banner Emblem, \$100. This is a great way to honor one of your members. No donation for the Christian D. Larson Partners \$1000 donation for you big donors!

All the forms are available on the OI website and the checks need to be made out to the OI Foundation. P.O. Box 952126, St. Louis, Mo 63195

There will be fliers available at the next conference and Dime-A-Day Pins. If you want me to drop by at your meeting, let me know. Your donations make it possible for oratorical, essay, CCDHH scholarships, club grants, Childhood Health & Wellness program which includes Childhood Cancer and more. Don't delay, give today!

Wheat Ridge OC Sponsors New JOI Club - Kullerstrand Elementary

A new Junior Optimist International Club has been developed at **Kullerstrand Elementary School** supported by the **Optimist Club of Wheat Ridge**. Their first meeting was in September 2021. The club has grown quickly, they currently have 19 children and many pending applications. The kids are so very excited, and they have a huge heart to help the community.

Their first project was to support the **Children's Hospital Colorado**. They decided to have a hot cocoa/lemonade stand during the Halloween Parade knowing so many parents and kids would be present. Due to Covid restrictions, for the lemonade they purchased bottles of water and lemonade and 'add in' packets then the customer could mix for themselves. For the hot



cocoa they had the individual packets of cocoa that the customer could open, and the kids provided the hot water from a huge "coffee maker" and again the customers could mix for themselves. The community really supported this project.

There was a joint Zoom meeting of the Optimist Club at Kullerstrand Elementary, the Optimist Club of Wheat Ridge, and Children's Hospital Colorado where the kids gave the \$317.00, they made to the hospital. They decided to split the funds 50% to the medical dog program and 50% to the toy program for the children in the hospital.

Their next project will be another hot cocoa/lemonade stand during the up-coming Christmas Concert at school and these funds will go the Foothills Animal Shelter.

This is the newest JOI Club in the District! Here are some pics from our outing Feb 1st. I am very proud of these kiddos! These are the Officers from Kullerstrand delivering the donation from the kiddos. The kids donated \$190.00 of dog and cat toys and food to The

Foothills Animal Shelter in Lakewood CO.



Kullerstrand Elementary JOI club collected canned food for **The Food Bank of the Rockies.**

Academy Optimist - It's all about our JOI Clubs! Ronda Riley



ALLIES: In February, the students of Allies JOI Club collected items to present to our local Humane Society. Upon delivery, the kids were treated to a private, after-hours tour of the facility!

HORIZON: At the February 8th meeting, the Horizon (Middle School) JOI Club helped Academy Optimist Club member and JOI Advisor, Evelyn Wall, celebrate her birthday in style!



KELLER: This photo is the Keller (Elementary School) JOI Club's Induction ceremony held 1/25/22.



Lake Arbor Optimist Club Has Ongoing Projects

Our motto as we move into the new normal is: We are small but mighty. After mastering Zoom meetings throughout the Pandemic, we have been meeting every week at our new location at Morning Story Restaurant for the past 6 months. Our officers and board have prioritized increasing membership, fundraising and increasing community visibility for the 2021-2022 year.

We are working closely with a new nonprofit in our community, Hope, Connection and Community and have supported their huge **Santa Shoppe** and **Toys for Tots Giveaway** at Christmas. We will be celebrating their 2 year anniversary of the Arvada Giving Table on March 20. What began as a small volunteer table to provide food, toilet paper and diapers during the lockdown is now a recognized non profit to support our community.



To the left: We are providing a monthly dinner to the **Shiloh House** and had a great time making Christmas cookies with them.



Our club continues to support youth and schools in our community and is scheduled to provide bikes and helmets to schools this Spring. **Steve Selle**, our bike guru, also delivered bikes to the Marshall Fire victims.

And we exceeded our goal for our first online **32 Auction fundraiser** so we can continue to support our community programs and schools. We welcome other clubs to visit us on Wednesday mornings at 7:30 at **Morning Story Restaurant**.

CO/WY District Optimist Junior Golf Program Bob Meyer



The Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (commonly referred to as THE OPTIMIST) is one of Optimist International's major youth programs for boys and girls ages 10 – 18 and is one of the largest and best-known junior golf events in the world. More than 4,000 boys and girls across the United States, Canada, Mexico, and several dozen other foreign countries compete in official Optimist qualifying tournaments. The best of these junior golfers, along with additional international junior golfers from around the globe, advance to **THE OPTIMIST**.

Each year, **THE OPTIMIST** is held at **Trump Doral Resort - Miami FL** and fields over 600 of the world's best junior golfers from more than 28 countries around the globe. College coaches come from all over the U.S. to scout some of the best junior players in the world.

Past age group winners at THE OPTIMIST (and its predecessor, the Optimist Junior World Golf Championships) include Denver's own Mark Hubbard, Tiger Woods, Phil Mickelson, and Ernie Els, among dozens of prominent PGA and LPGA golfers.

The Colorado-Wyoming District Optimist Junior Golf Program is recognized as the best Junior Golf Program in all of Optimist International and serves over 400 junior golfers each year. The best of these golfers will qualify for THE 2022 OPTIMIST.

The 2022 District qualifying tournaments will be held Wednesday, June 15, at Flatirons Golf Course in Boulder (boys ages 10 – 15); Thursday, June 16, at Meadow Hills Golf Course in Aurora (girls ages 10 – 18); and Friday, June 17 at Flatirons Golf Course in Boulder (boys ages 16 – 18).

The Colorado-Wyoming District Optimist Junior Golf Program is totally self-funded. We sent 60 junior golfers to THE 2021 OPTIMIST and raised over \$ 45,000 for that purpose. We were able to give \$ 1,000 to each of the seven age group winners and \$ 500 to the 53 other qualifiers from the 2021 District qualifying events.

For THE 2022 OPTIMIST, we received an allocation of 71 spots, so we need to raise \$ 50,000 to maintain the level of financial assistance we've provided in the past. To boost our fund-raising activities in 2022, we will hold an **ADULT SCRAMBLE FUNDRAISING TOURNAMENT AND SILENT AUCTION** on Thursday, May 26, at Meadows Hills Golf Course in Aurora. **Form on page 8**

We will also solicit title, hole, banner, and player sponsors for the qualifying tournaments at Flatirons and Meadow Hills from many Colorado-Wyoming District Optimist Clubs, individual Optimists and their friends and businesses. In addition, we solicit cash and in-kind donations from local golf courses, parents of our junior golfers, and the general public.

We also have a GOFUNDME page <https://www.gofundme.com/cow-district-optimist-jr-golf>.

The Colorado-Wyoming District Optimist Junior Golf Program website is <https://sites.google.com/site/cowyoptimistgolf/>.

For further information, please contact:

Bob Meyer, Junior Golf Tri-Chairman, meyerrob@comcast.net, 303-919-4532
Joe Marci, Junior Golf Tri-Chairman, jmarci899@gmail.com; 303-771-3748
Ron Cisco, Junior Golf Tri-Chairman, ciscoron@msn.com, 303-794-0749



**COLORADO-WYOMING DISTRICT
OPTIMIST GOLF SCRAMBLE**

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

**HELP US SEND 71 JUNIOR GOLFERS TO THE
2022 OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR GOLF
CHAMPIONSHIPS AT TRUMP DORAL RESORT - MIAMI**



WHERE: Meadow Hills Golf Course, 3609 Dawson St, Aurora CO
WHEN: Thursday, May 26th – tee times starting at 8:00 am
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.

Windsor Gardens Optimist Club Support JROTC Carol Brooks, Past President

Twenty-five years ago, The Optimist Club of Windsor Gardens, Inc. partnered with the Denver Public Schools and the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp. (JROTC) to present an annual girl/boy **Cadet Oratorical Contest**.

Col. John Ramsey (Ret.), now deceased, created a program which encouraged cadets to develop the art of public speaking. The winners received cash awards and plaques at the JROTC Annual Awards Banquet each year.

Currently, the purpose is to educate high school students in leadership roles while making them aware of the benefits of citizenship. The mission of JROTC is to motivate young people to become better American citizens.

But it wasn't always this way. Richard Love, a former JROTC cadet, administered the program for many years. In the '40's when he was in high school, cadets learned how to put machine guns together and assemble rifles.

Topics for the speeches have ranged over a number of subjects. **This year's topic was "Which Freedom in the Bill of Rights is the Most Important to Me and Why."** We heard cadets address different ideas, but in each case, you could tell that a great deal of thought and even research went into their presentations. They are graded on poise, delivery, logic, etc. so this event is taken quite seriously.

The leadership of JROTC feels that the Optimists' program is valuable because public speaking is a part of preparing for leadership which is one of their objectives.

The Optimist Club of Windsor Gardens, Inc. is honored to work with this unique program and be a part of these cadets' lives.

*If you would like more information about the Optimists club, contact Bob Hamblin
blhamblin2@gmail.com*

Windsor Gardens Book Worms!

Windsor Gardens Optimists volunteered at Place Bridge Academy Library! From the left, **Ray and Kelli Schuttinga, Jennifer Powers, and Rita Williams**



Weld Food Bank Recognizes Greeley Luncheon OC Member

The Weld Food Bank recently recognized Secretary **Joy Roden as their Beacon of Hope volunteer**. She began volunteering at the Mobile Food Pantry in 2017 and has expanded to work at multiple sites since then. She has given over 400 hours of volunteer service in the past 4 years. Joy also chaired our club project last summer in the **Compete to Beat Hunger** campaign, leading our club to a 3rd place finish in our division. Congratulations to Joy on this recognition and a special "thank you" to her for all she does for our club.

Windsor Gardens– Happy New Year 2022 Bob Hamblin, President



As we bid a perhaps, not so fond farewell to the year 2021, once again we find ourselves reflecting on the numerous challenges we've taken on over the past twelve months; perhaps celebrating our victories, and hopefully learning from our shortcomings. And now, presumably having come to terms with all that we've experienced, both good and bad in the previous year, **we now set about establishing new resolutions for the next twelve months.**

Unfortunately, as has been the case for so many years before, many of these lofty and well-intended ambitions inevitably fall by the wayside all too quickly. It's **the fervent desire of each of us to improve some aspect of our lives**, yet reality seems to settle in all too hastily, and in a very short time it becomes apparent that the goals we've set require a commitment that we weren't fully prepared for, and have now become seemingly insurmountable.

But we are Optimists! And as Optimists we realize that living our best lives may sometimes prove to be difficult, but not impossible. Learning to embrace happiness and inner peace happens by incorporating a healthy attitude in mind and body, and focusing on the good things in life. Optimists seek encouragement deep within our souls. Now, more than ever, we need to "look at the sunny side of everything".

Negative, pessimistic people meander through the day, questioning why life seems to have dealt them a losing hand. Consequently, they miss out on critical opportunities to positively influence themselves and the world around them. Instead of focusing on what is meaningful, they plod through life, musing over circumstances that are beyond their control. It's inevitable that we will face challenges and struggles throughout this coming year, and simply being an Optimist won't change that. Perhaps the key to dealing with the unknowns of 2022 is to acknowledge that we have a choice in how we approach them.

If there is anything to have been learned from this past year, it is that we could never have imagined how each of us would be impacted by all that 2021 threw at us. Yet, despite the struggles, the pain, and the tears, you and I made a choice to carry on. **For better or worse, we're still here.** And together, with faith in ourselves, in each other, and in our God, may we choose, here and now, to make 2022 a year filled with determination in our minds, peace in our souls, and Optimism in our hearts.

I close this message with a quote from **Robert F. Kennedy**:

***"Some men see things as they are and ask 'why'.
I dream of things that never were and ask, 'why not.'"***



Gateway Optimist Club Activities Karen Gold



Bee keeper talk

Meet 'n greet at Sertino's coffee shop, gave members (current and potential) a chance to enjoy games together and some wonderful coffee/ice cream treats





Benefit dinner for victims and family from house fire...GOC members showed support of this fundraiser and enjoyed some wonderful food. Together with the help of the community over \$3500 was raised to give the surviving family a fresh start after losing their little boy and home to a house fire.

District Confenece: Donations galore for Joi Club animal toys...Heather Gardens community donated enough towels, t-shirts, fleece and toilet paper rolls to fill a Nissan Rogue trunk and give some animals toys.



Gateway Optimist Club has supported a lady by spreading the word with buttons with her picture, and we made a Facebook page for her. Her name is Jillian and the Facebook page is **A Kidney for Jillian**. She is a young lady who is in need of a kidney transplant and preferably from a live donor.


**Save the Date for the 3rd Quarter
Conference May 14, 2022
Saturday, Calvary Baptist
Church, 6500 E Girard Ave,
Denver 80224**

 **Heather Gardens Breakfast Optimist Club** 

Welcomes you to our

Spring Pancake Breakfast

Heather Gardens at Rendezvous Restaurant
2888 S Heather Gardens Way
Saturday, April 16, 2022
8 am to 10 am




\$10.00 per Person
Pancakes, sausage, coffee, orange juice

All proceeds go to help the Youth of Aurora

**You may purchase tickets at the door
or pre-purchase from Optimist Members**

**DO GOOD
WITH CHIPOTLE**



**CHIPOTLE FUNDRAISER FOR
OPTIMIST CLUB
AURORA-GATEWAY**
33% OF EVENT SALES GET DONATED TO THE CAUSE

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH | 4-8PM
15280 E ILIFF AVE, AURORA, CO, 80014

ORDER ONLINE FOR PICKUP USING CODE **WT2VA6L**
OR SHOW THIS FLYER IN RESTAURANT

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

