

CO/WY - The Bandwagon

Governor's Corner - Tony Carpenter 2022-2023



Theme for the CO/WY District: Vision 2.0

Optimist International is encouraging the use of standardized logos when communicating with the public. The goal is to raise our brand awareness. Please use the approved branding for public Communications, which is the **OI logo with CO/WY District** in the circle. For internal communications you will be seeing **Vision 2.0 logo** pictured on this page.

Why Vision and Why 2.0?

Many of you may recall that I served as District Governor 2019-2020. A year interrupted by a Global Pandemic. The Theme that year was Vision 2020. Times have changed, but the symbolism contained in that logo is still valid.

Vision = What we as Optimists can achieve to improve our world.
2.0 implies an upgrade from the previous version. What of the other symbols?

The Trapeze flyer

Almost everyone knows that I'm a Flying Trapeze artist. But the flyer represents more than that. Notice how the flyer is looking off into the distance, peering into the night sky. It can be terrifying to take risks and very difficult to see what's out there. The flyer represents daring to take on challenges!

The Flyer also represents FUN! Optimism should be fun and rewarding to our youth our communities and OURSELVES!

Now let's focus on the youth

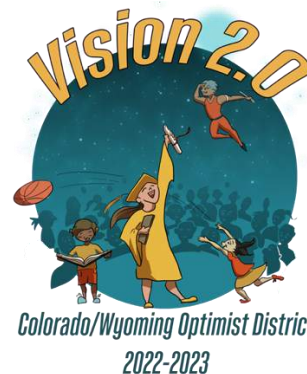
The girl shooting the basketball represents Athletics. Programs such as Tri -Star Basketball and Junior Golf help build confidence, teamwork, individual effort, a sense of accomplishment, "the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat"...and how to deal with both. It builds healthy bodies to boot!

The boy reading a book represents learning and improving academic skills. Programs like the Oratorical and Essay contests, The Brain Bowl and The Bug Program are good examples of how we help the kids in our communities improve their minds.

The robed clad girl in the foreground has achieved her academic goals and is Reaching for the stars. OI and many of our clubs provide scholarships and resources to help the youth in our communities reach for their goals and dreams.

Together they represent how we help improve the Body, Mind and Spirit of our youth. We are helping them to bring out their best.

Are those results worth stretching your comfort zone? The Optimists need to be vibrant to serve our communities. We need to grow. An easy way to do so is by asking someone you know to help with a club function or to join you for a club breakfast (lunch or dinner). **Continued on page 3**



Inside this issue

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District Officers

- Governor: Tony Carpenter, Wheat Ridge OC
- Governor— Designate: Mary Grace Wake, Windsor Gardens OC
- Secretary: Pat Bush, Monaco South OC
- Treasurer: Bill Ashbee, Boulder Luncheon OC
- Immediate Past Gov: Nicole Powell, Academy OC

Lt. Governors

- Zone 1: Linda Chasson, Cheyenne OC
- Zone 2: Bill Ashbee, Boulder Luncheon OC
- Zone 3: Burke Kaisedr, Buena Vista OC
- Zone 4: Tom Mehl, Gateway OC
- Zone 5: Abigail Nicolas, Tamarac & DTC
- Zone 6: Linda Williams, Tamarac
- Zone 7: Kevin Keilbach, Pueblo OC
- Zone 9: Terri Kearney, Arvada Lake Arbor

Important Websites

- Optimist International:**
www.optimist.org
- OI Foundation:**
oifoundation.org/
- COWY District:**
www.optimistcowy.org/
- COWY Brain Bowl:**
www.optimistbrainbowl.org/
- COWY Junior Golf:**
<https://sites.google.com/site/cowyoptimistgolf/home>

CO/WY District 1st Quarter District Conference

Our 1st Quarter Conference at the Assistance League of Denver was held on Oct 22, 2022 with 68 registered. The conference was informative and our featured guest speakers **LouAnn & Michelle** shared how the Assistance League works and how they support the community.

Gov. Elect Mary Grace Wake & Bill Ashbee organized breakout sessions that asked thought provoking questions and led us to really think about the topics presented. **BJ. Burleigh** who is our Conference Chair made the room look beautiful and the food was enjoyed by all of us.

Special thanks to the following persons who helped set up **Nadou Lawson, Bernie Nichter, Abigail Nicholas & Kent Gloor, Gunar & Charlie Neumann**. Gunar Neumann took on the role of the AV person and did a wonderful job! A very special thank you to the members who stayed to help clean up this was greatly appreciated!!!

The Assistance League was so grateful for all of the donations of fabric, school supplies, toiletries, sewers, books, in-kind donations and the medical equipment. Our District and members are always so generous.

The **fundraiser of the beer & wine pull** brought in close to \$400.00 which will be donated to JOI. Way to go Linda **Chasson, Kathy Vetter and Kathleen** for running the fundraiser. The **After Gathering at La Fogata** had 29 in attendance and was great fun and fellowship.



Comments from 1st Quarter Conference Charlie Neumann

Big thank you for Nicole Powell for getting comment cards collected:

#1. Excellent Content, Casual, Informative, Fun

Acronyms not explained (explain the lingo makes people feel more connected & Included Loved so many people participating-loved Interactive "Town Hall"

Good Venue, comfortable, bright

The breakouts were awesome, maybe tone down the scope of group topics so it's not so overwhelming to answer the questions

#2. Please require all acronyms to be stated in full

Appreciated hearing the various clubs projects. Would be more valuable if the presentations were better prepared thus eliminating too much discussion

Don't assume, "please" that everyone knows the names or personalities of various Optimist members. I realize this isn't meant to alienate but it does give a feeling of "not being in the in crowd"

#3. Efficiently run, Loved the Town Hall, Probably could've done just 3 discussions, but loved them

#4. Food + Food selection was great

Speakers were good & location & sound were great

All was awesome, great speakers

Loved Townhall & breakout sessions (although breakout was a little long even if it was educational

Great job on slideshow presentation

Larger coffee pot needed

Registrar did a fabulous job as usual

Donna's talk was Very educational much needed info for everyone

Great 1st Quarter

#5. I am new to OI & 1st timer, I enjoyed observing the BOD meeting

I liked the Town Hall

Good to hear about the OI Foundation & Dime a Day

Enjoyed learning about the "Assistance League of Denver and the facility was good for the Program. Enjoyed the dialogue & breakouts

#6. As a first timer, I felt this was a wonderful, organized, great food!!

It provided me with more information about the variety of projects that the OI Clubs are involved with. It helped to see and hear from the "go to" people.

It helped me to see the variety of clubs in CO/WY. So much energy, enjoyment & camaraderie I was not familiar with "JOI"; Wow that is exciting. Nice to see all the young people today.

Great information and great team effort by all.

We had a great 1st Quarter.

Well Done!


Governor's Corner—Continued from page 1

You might notice that some of the images extend past the circle. Think of it as “coloring outside the lines”. Let’s find creative ways to break out of rigid rules and habits. Let’s stretch our comfort zones and find new and exciting ways to “get-er-done”.

Finally notice **the Crowd behind the kids**. That’s us! We’re focused on those kids.

“By providing hope and positive VISION, Optimists bring out the best in Youth, Our Communities and Ourselves.”

When you see that logo, I hope you’ll remind yourself of what you are doing to make your corner of the world a better place. Tony



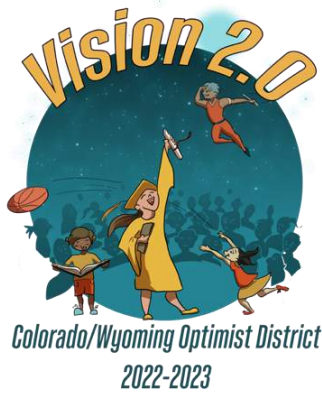
COLORADO/WYOMING FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

We would like our members to join in the Wreaths across America program. You can help by sponsoring wreaths. We would like to also have members join on Saturday December 17at Fairmount Cemetery at 10:00 am to place wreaths on the Graves for our veterans.
We can go out for lunch to a restaurant near by.

Contact Kathy Sullivan rksullivan11@aol.com or 303-758-9526

Time Out for a Little Chuckle...





**SAVE THE DATE for the 2nd Quarter
CO/WY Conference
Sat, February 25, 2023**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
2100 Wadsworth Blvd
Lakewood, CO 80214**

OC of Windsor and Windsor Police Dept Host Safe Halloween Event

On October 31st 2022 the Optimist Club of Windsor and the Windsor Police Department again held their Safe Halloween event at the Windsor Community Recreation Center from 6-8 pm. Over 100 children participated in games run by the Optimist Club of Windsor as well as the Windsor Fire Department, Rotary Club of Windsor and Kiwanis Club of Windsor.

The children wore a wide variety of costumes, from ghosts and goblins to many cartoon and fairy tale characters. Treats for the children were provided by the Windsor PD, many thanks for their continued support for this popular Halloween alternate activity.



Submitted by Gary Banninga

Tamarac Repurposes Flowers for Others to Enjoy

Second chance for beautiful flower arrangements from the Arts Center are given by Tamarac ladies who pick them up, and repurpose them into smaller arrangements for nursing or retirement centers residents to enjoy. As many as 100 arrangements made with these stems are delivered when they come available.



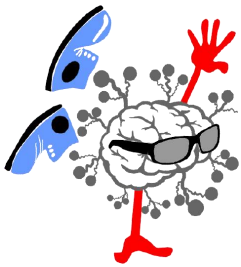
DTC-T1D OC Members at the JDRF Walk

On September 25, 2022, DTC/T1DOC members were marshals, manned the apparel booth and hydration station at the One Walk held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds.

There was a great selection of JDRF shirts, jackets and hats being sold at closeout prices so many people left with something for every member of the family or team. When they participate in JDRF One Walk, the money raised powers more research, enable more advocacy and fund more support for the 1.6 million Americans living with T1D. And, they have a great time doing it! This walk raised \$494,000, and the booth raised \$906!



L-R: Sheryl Overton, Laura Mitchell, and Connie Ackerman



Brain Bowl is Coming!

It's time to start thinking about the **BRAIN BOWL!!** It takes volunteers to run a successful Brain Bowl. Volunteers are the backbone of the Optimist Brain Bowl.

This year's program will include 3 events:

Central/South Region Tournament – January 21, 2023 – Heritage High School, Littleton

North Region Tournament – January 28, 2023 – Standley Lake High School, Westminster

Optimist Brain Bowl Championship Tournament – February 11, 2023 – Hamilton Middle School, Denver

We are using a new registration process this year which will allow you to see your registration, schedule, and tournament results by accessing your Volunteer account.

www.optimistbrainbowl.org/brain-bowl-volunteer-registration

The site will walk you through the sign in process. Simply enter your email address and password to login if you have already created your account, or click the second button to create your account. Use an easy password that you can remember, ie brainbowl!

If you are volunteering with a group, one person can create an account and register all of the volunteers in the group (you will need contact information for each volunteer your register).

Lake Arbor OC Happenings Kiki McGough



The counselor and community Liaison from at Hidden Lake High School presented on activities going on with the JOI Club.

Steve Selle and his bike team are as busy as ever! They recently delivered 12 bikes



We hosted a special guest on November 2. **Steve Redfearn** is the Deputy Chief of Police in Boulder and the Founder of the Colorado Fallen Hero Fund.



To the left: **Tom Mehl** joined us on November 9 to talk about the Wreaths Across America program.



Above left: On Veteran's Day, our club member **Jim Carroll** and his real estate company hosted a breakfast for veterans at the Arvada Elks Club. Our club members **Ed, Dan, Marshall and former member Ken** joined for a delicious meal and tribute to all veterans. The club co-presidents **Kathy and Kiki** helped out. We are looking forward to supporting the Santa Shoppe in December organized by our member **Julia** and her nonprofit Hope Connection and Community on December 16,17 and 18.

We wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Optimist and Reality Bob Hamblin, President of Windsor Gardens OC

Optimism could be described as the expectation that good things are bound to happen. True diehard Optimists tend to block out any information that inhibits their expectations of a positive outcome. **Pessimistic people, on the other hand, fall into the notion that something terrible is inevitable.** They discount any possibility that good will prevail.

The danger in both cases is that we could end up fooling ourselves. As Optimists, sometimes our well-intended efforts “to look at the sunny side of everything” can easily delude us into believing that a situation will always end on a positive note. All too often, reality sneaks up on us, and life doesn’t always go as planned. That’s when our hopes and dreams are crushed, and we’re left disappointed and bitter.

My friends, I believe **Optimism walks hand-in-hand with faith.** **Faith in** yourself, knowing you can draw on your own unique talents and experiences to deal with whatever life throws at you. **Faith in** what matters most to you, pursuing what brings meaning to your life, be it relationships, hobbies, acts of service to others, or an artistic outlet. **Faith in** others, that their own journey has likewise equipped and prepared them, so that together, common challenges are met in a responsible and effective manner. In doing so, you’re able to celebrate victories together, and comfort each other in your sorrows.

So remember to stop and smell the roses. Be mindful of the present moment. Have an attitude of gratitude! We can’t predict the future; we can only prepare for its possibilities. So live each day to the fullest. Today is a gift. That’s why it’s called the Present. To quote a wise philosopher named **John Lennon: “Life is what happens when you're busy making other plans!**



Monaco South Provides Thanksgiving Dinner

Michael Chavez organized volunteering at the **Boys and Girls Club Annual Bill Walters Thanksgiving Dinner.** Helping hands included: **Ron Gustas, Eldon and Roxie Strong, Ken Jeung(1st Timer), Tom (Pilgrim)Mauro, Gary Strowbridge, George Buzick, Greg Young, EdCollins, Bryce Slaby, Allen Malask, Brian Williams, Curt Boell, Tom Kramis, Keith and Lois Galloway, Joe Marci, Russ Paul, Tom Glazier and Phil (KP)Perington** Kevin Dempsey representing Bethany Lutheran Church proudly and thankfully presented the Club a \$2,000 Check as a contribution to the event. Here is Channel 4 video:



<https://www.cbsnews.com/colorado/news/boys-girls-clubs-celebrate-annual-thanksgiving-dinner/>

Westminster-Broomfield OC Clown Contest Sandra Mackenzie

The Westminster-Broomfield Optimist Club continued a 41-year tradition of holding a **Clown Contest during Broomfield Days**. The Contest honors **Marlene Politzer of Bal Swan Children's Center, a late member of the club**. Contestants took the main stage in the park for an opportunity to sing, dance and tell something about themselves. The top two winners in each age group (1-3, 4-6, 7-9) were awarded a new bicycle! Every entrant got a stuffed animal.



Then, the children (with a parent, if desired) got to ride the Optimist float in the Broomfield Days parade!! A five-year old on the float waving the American flag said: "This is the best day of my life!" As a special bonus, photographs were created by the Broomfield Photography Club and were made available to entrants and parents. Thanks to **Debbie Cooper-George** for the organization, and **Barb and James Figg (pictured)** for SPIRIT! Thanks to members of the club and volunteers outside the club who helped decorate the float on Friday and helped with the clown contest Saturday morning. Members later staffed the club's NOW booth, distributing free water bottles and information on the club. Looking forward to next year!



Academy OC Holds BUG Assembly Donna Priester

The Academy Optimists had their BUG (Bringing Up Grades) Awards assembly at West Elementary school in Colorado Springs. It is a small public school and one that works with the homeless families and lower socio-economic families. Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders are nominated once a quarter by their classroom teachers to honor EFFORT! These students are given the award at an all school Awards Assembly at the end of each quarter!



Dot, the Ladybug, joins us to show support and love to all students and congratulates the Award winners personally. Students are presented with a framed certificate, a BUG CLUB T-shirt, and a book to encourage reading. It is a wonderful day for all - parents who attend, Optimists, Teachers, and especially the students!



Gateway Optimist Update

Lt Gov, Mary Grace Wake installing co president, Larron Jackson 9/14/2022



Group photo at installation of officers meeting with Lt Gov Mary Grace Wake

Welcome our newest members: JoAnn Murray-Spencer & Deborah and Hal Martens



And...our very own Santa is asking for gift donations for the kids he will be blessing this Christmas Season. Small gifts please



Gate continues to support Wreaths Across America program. Here is the **QR code for the Wreaths Across America project**. It takes you directly to the WAA website and wreath sponsorships can be made directly on line. Fast, easy. Cutoff donation date for the 2022 ceremony is Nov 30. Donations made after that will roll over to 2023 ceremony.



Zone 8 Leadership Meet

Zone 08 Lt. Governor, **Terri Kearney** had 1st Gathering for fellowship, food and fun. Zone 08 leaders shared Club projects, how they can support each other and why they are Optimists. Governor Tony Carpenter also joined.

Pictured are (left to right) **Kiki McGough, Bill Cassel, Kris Gresl, Kathy Greb Seated Gov. Tony Carpenter and Lt. Gov. Terri Kearney (seated)**



Pueblo Optimist Club's 180 Program

Terry Hawkins

The Pueblo Optimist Club has expanded our 180 Program this year! We have in the past honored 2 students from all the middle schools in Pueblo County who the counselors, teachers and principals have identified as students who have turned their lives around. We have honored the students and parents with a lunch and a plaque.

In addition this year we have added that we are having the students recommend a charity, and the Club will donate \$150 in the students name from that school. We are looking forward to not only honoring students who have turned their life around but encouraging them to adopt a lifestyle of reaching out to their community too.



We have had inquiries from clubs in other states and have put together a small packet on how we have operated this program for over 20 years.

District Award Nominations Due

Charlie Neumann, District Awards Chair

3 Member Award: Will be calculated for an end of year award of a \$50.00 Amazon gift card. If a member brings in 6 new members (2) gift cards will be presented. This award is to be handed out at the Optimist Convention.

Optimist of the Quarter: Nominated by a Club President, Lt. Gov. or a member for recognition of outstanding service they provided to their community and their club. Winner will receive a \$50.00 Amazon Gift Card

Optimist Project of the Quarter: Nominated by a Club President, Lt. Gov. or a member for recognition of a project that the club did for their community or organization that benefited those they serve. Club will receive a \$50.00 check

2nd Qtr Conference: Feb 25, 2023 Deadline: Feb 13, 2023

3rd Qtr Conference: Apr 29, 2023 Deadline: Apr 17, 2023

Convention: Aug 18/19, 2023 Deadline: Aug 7, 2023

How to send in your nomination:

Email: neumann-charlie@comcast.net P: 303 766-9649

Name of person, Club Name, nominated by:

Date of Project: Who benefited:

Reason for Optimist of the Quarter Recognition: (Free-Form)

Reason for Project of the Quarter Recognition: (Free-Form)

Oratorical Contest for 2022-2023 Steve Gorrell

The Oratorical Contest is open to students who have not reached the age of 19 before October 1, 2022, and are not enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution or have not won the OI Regional Contest in St Louis.

This year's topic is: **"Discovering the Optimism within Me"**

All contest will be Combined Gender. Clubs will send their 1st and 2nd place winners to the Regional Contest. The Regional Contests will be held via Zoom on April 15, 2023.

1st, 2nd and 3rd place Regional winners will then go to the District Finals being held on April 29, 2023 at Family Resource Pavilion, 9700 E Easter Ln, Centennial, CO 80112 at the 3rd Quarter Conference. The District's 1st 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. 2nd place District winner will receive a \$1,500 scholarship and 3rd place District winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

The Club contest must be completed on or before March 25, 2023. Clubs must submit all Oratorical paperwork, with Club's check made out to the Colorado-Wyoming District in the amount of \$20.00 per contestant to: Steve Gorrell. 14734 Vine Street, Thornton, CO 80602 by April 1, 2023 for the Regional Contest

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. Programs-scholarship contests-oratorical contest. From there you can download the rules and application for the contest.

You may hold your Club's contest in person or via Zoom. If your Club decides to hold your contest via Zoom and you want to know how. You need to send me an email that you would be interested on how to put on a Club Zoom contest. I will then be setting up a Zoom training sessions after the 1st of the year.

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

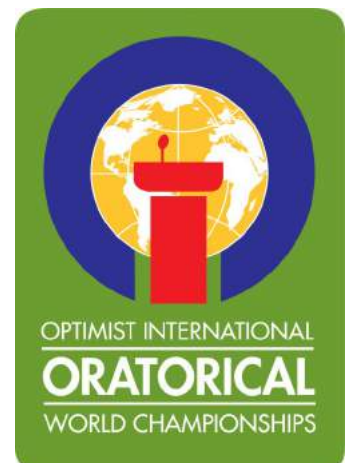
If you have any questions, contact your Lt Governor or me.

Steve Gorrell

Colorado-Wyoming District Oratorical Chairperson 2022-2023

Sgorrell1@yahoo.com

303-920-2366



SAVE THIS DATE!!

Your Club's Fundraiser Flyer could be on this page in the 2nd Qtr



★ December 17, 2022 ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help the Gateway Optimist Club honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Fairmount Cemetery.

Just scan the QR code to the right with your smart phone camera to make a donation online or visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/CO0141P



WREATHS
across
AMERICA
www.wreathscrossamerica.org



#FindAWay2022

Have safe
and happy
Holiday
Seasons!!



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

