



# Just Do It!

Spring, 2016  
Volume 1, Issue 1

Atlantic Central District, [www.optimist-ac.org](http://www.optimist-ac.org)

## Special Interest Articles

Governors' Corner

AC District Q-3 Board Meeting

## Governor's Corner

Dear Fellow Optimists, Do you serve with honor?

I certainly hope so. As the calendar turns we all have the opportunity to renew our commitment to Optimism and ask ourselves are we serving with honor in mind.

Our honor clubs are clubs that complete three service projects during the Optimist year and submit a president's pride report, they take time to recognize a club member or a local

leader for their outstanding community service. Honor clubs grow membership by a net plus one. They are committed and are current with Optimist International dues. So I ask again are serving with honor?

As of March 15, 2016 the following clubs were plus one or more in membership based on the T-Shot Report.

Barnegat, NJ Westfield, NJ Media-Rose Tree, PA Chester South Chester, PA Lower Montco, PA, Valley

Forge King of Prussia, PA Gallilee Community, PA Indiania, PA, Mercer PA

Those that are serving with honor thank you. For our other clubs there is plenty of time for you too to serve your community with honor in mind.

Thank you for all you do.

Delores Y Wright Ed.D  
Governor 2015-2016  
Atlantic Central District  
[delowright@aol.com](mailto:delowright@aol.com)

## Third Quarter Board & Oratorical

### Individual Highlights

Spreading the Word	2
Ac District Oratorical	3
John Maxwell Training	4
Hot Shot Basketball	5
Foundation Follies	6
Time to Vote	7
Joint District Convention	8



The AC-District 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board of Directors Meeting will take place on Friday and Saturday May 6-7 at the Inn at Reading.

Club Presidents, Lt. Governors, District Executive Committee and District Chairs should plan to be in attendance.

If you are not able to attend plan to have your committee report to District Secretary, Maxcine Collier prior to the event date.

In addition to District business the Oratorical committee will host this year's winners at the Oratorical luncheon.

Our 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will present their speeches. And our judges will announce our scholarship winners for this event. The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner will progress to the Regional competition in St. Louis.

This is a big day for our kids and their families. Plan to join us for lunch on

Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Third Quarter Board Meeting & Oratorical Contest

The Inn at Reading Hotel  
1040 North Park Rd  
Wyomissing, PA

610 3720-7811



““ Doesn't every  
community deserve what  
we already have”...

## Spreading the word of Optimism

Spreading the word of  
optimism....

Has your involvement with  
your Optimist Club, Zone or  
District changed your life?

Has it given you smiles,  
friendships and lifetime  
memories?

I'm hoping each of us can  
answer yes to that  
question.

So in response I say "why

not share that with  
someone else?

Building an Optimist Club  
can be one of the most  
rewarding things you can  
do as an Optimist. It isn't  
hard, honest! I'm here to  
assist in the project.

Why not talk with your club  
and see if there is a spark of  
interest! possibilities! Please  
give this some thought.

Doesn't every community

deserve what we already  
have?

Sharing Optimism  
spreading the word it's fun  
it's rewarding.

Sue Creswell  
New Club Building Chair  
[sstav@pta.net](mailto:sstav@pta.net)

I'd be happy to visit your  
club in person and discuss  
the possibilities.

610 721-4742

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## AC Oratorical Contest

The new Optimist Oratorical  
World Championship  
Contest will be June 23-24,  
2016

In preparation for  
competition for in the  
Regionals in St. Louis the  
winner of our District event  
will advance to compete  
against the winners from  
the other Districts in our  
Region. The eight Regional  
winners will compete in the  
World Championship in  
June.

This is an exciting  
opportunity for a youngster  
to not only compete on a  
world stage but compete  
for a significant amount of  
college scholarship money.

If you have not so by now,  
please contact Marion  
Dourte (717)464-3535 or  
[marion@dourte.org](mailto:marion@dourte.org) with  
information about your  
clubs plans to hold a local  
Oratorical Contest. Clubs  
are welcome to send one  
winner only to the District

event on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup>  
at the Inn at Reading Hotel.

The prizes for the District  
Event will be \$2500 First  
Place, \$ 1500 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and  
\$ 1000 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.

The First Place winner will  
travel to St. Louis with a  
parent or guardian as a  
guest of the AC District to  
compete in the Regionals  
and World Championship  
Contest.

## District Leadership Development

Leadership development  
chair Gene Riordan will be  
conducting a leadership  
development series via  
phone conference call and  
is looking for participants  
interested in joining him  
and others. The program

will be based on the John  
Maxwell book "The 21  
Irrefutable Laws of  
Leadership" The format will  
be a master mind group  
style which is interactive  
and based on readings

reviewed ahead of the  
phone conference. If  
interested contact Gene.

Gene Riordan, John  
Maxwell Team Certified  
Trainer, Speaker & Coach  
610 745-0104

# Hot Shot Basketball

The Freehold Sunrise Optimist Club hosted 62 boys and girls at their annual hot shot basketball shoot around. The Western Monmouth YMCA was gracious again this year to host this event. The Sunrisers have forged a great partnership with the YMCA " say's Sunrise Club President Matt Schiappa.

The event is open to boys and girls in grades 4-9. Each participant gets one minute to dribble to marked spots on the floor and take a shot. The further out the spot the higher the score. Trophies are presented to high score in each category.

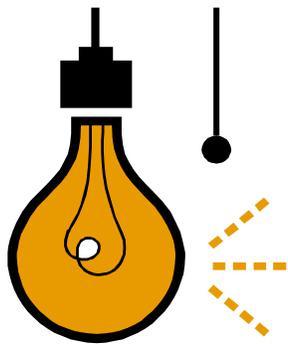
Each participant gets an event Tee shirt with the Sunrise Optimist and YMCA logo. Corporate sponsors place their logo on the back of the Tee Shirt for a contribution of \$ 100.

The event was always planned as a fun event for the kids and not as a fund raiser although it has become a

profitable event over the years.

There are plenty of club members and YMCA volunteers available the day of the event to help as score keepers, rebounder's registration desk helpers. We have found it to be a good membership opportunity since the parents are a captive audience.

Anyone interested in learning more about how to run a hot shot basketball event should contact the Sunrise Club or visit us at Sunrise-Optimist.com



## Foundation Follies

The Optimist International Foundation (OIF) was established in 1971 exclusively for charitable literary and educational purposes of Optimist International.

Optimist Clubs are community service organizations committed to creating a more optimistic future for young people through innovative programs.

The Optimist International Foundation (OIF) provides a number of services to the clubs. The club grant program, matching cash awards for creative and well documented community service projects. The pass through program, OIF is a recognized 501c-3 charitable organization. Clubs in need of 501c-3 to process corporate donations are able to utilize the OIF as a pass through. The club campaign fund allows clubs to deposit cash with OIF earning a 3% simple interest rate until needed for club projects.

We need your support plan to participate in the OIF fund raising campaigns.

Clubs that donate \$ 1 per day or \$365 For All "OUR" KIDs get this year's club banner.

The Presidents Club is a giving level that recognizes Optimists who are truly committed to the mission of the Foundation and its work to support Optimist International. Members contribute \$ 250 in an unrestricted gift to OIF.

Brother "can you spare a dime" I have dime a day pins for contributors of 36.50 plan to see me at Q-3 Board Meeting with your check.

Scott Pinheiro, AC District OIF Chair 732 754-8865 [scott21857\\_80@msn.com](mailto:scott21857_80@msn.com)

## Club's Right to Vote



Exercise your club's right to vote for the Optimist International President Board of Directors and Vice President.

Each and every Optimist Club has the ability to vote for International Officers online.

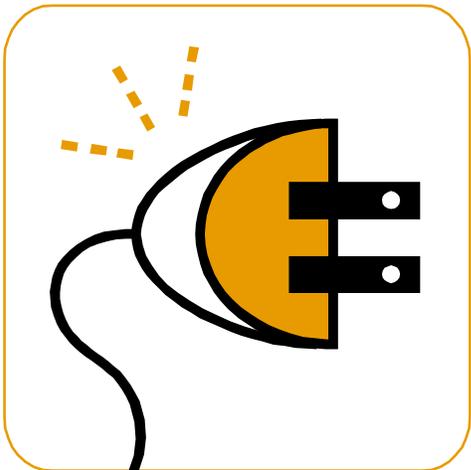
To be eligible to vote Club dues have to be current by April 30, 2016

Voting is done online. Club

Presidents please confirm your email address is correct in the Optimist membership database to ensure your club the voting procedures in the spring.

Go to [www.optimistleaders.org](http://www.optimistleaders.org)

Login with your credentials view the slate of officers and cast your vote.



## Regional Changes

The AC-District Executive Committee in their second quarter meeting agreed to send a letter to Optimist International indicating interest in changing our Regional alignment within OI.

A motion was entered and seconded to support a move from the Northeast and Great Lakes Region to the Mid-Atlantic Region.

This would seem to be a

more natural fit for our District from a geographical standpoint.

This way Regional meetings and Summits will more accessible to District Clubs and members.

## Save the Date August 26-27 Joint District Convention

The AC District will again offer a joint District convention with the Maryland / South Delaware District on August 26- 27 in Gettysburg, PA.

This is not new. We have

done these in the past with great results. We are able to get more people out to the event and the training programs offered. We fill more rooms and get better hotel discounts and is just more fun and interesting

when we have a bigger crowd. Say's Dee Cerwood our meetings & convention chair.

The event will be held at the Aspire Gettysburg Hotel. Rooms are \$ 132 for

singles and \$146 for doubles. The AC District registration fee is \$25. Information is available on the District website.

[www.optimist-ac.org](http://www.optimist-ac.org)

## Officers Elect Report

### Reminder To Vote!

2016-2017 Club Presidents, Club Secretaries and Club Treasurers are requested **by May 20, 2016!**

Club members have the opportunity to nominate and vote for the 2016/2017 Board of Directors and Club Officers. Many of the clubs follow specific guidelines as laid out in their constitutions

regarding the selection of new officers. The specific format of the selection process may vary from club to club depending on the club's size, needs, and purpose. We appreciate you, we know that whatever format you use it will be the best! ☺

Add your new leaders to your roster by May 20, 2016

We look forward to

working together in 2016/2017!

**Together We Can**  
**Bring out the best in Kids!**

GE LaVera S.  
Valley Forge Club



*Club Officer Election*

*reports are due to OI by*

*May 20, 2016*

## Membership Incentives

### **Membership Incentives**

#### **For Third**

**Quarter:** All new members brought in during the month of October had their names in a drawing for FREE lunch/registration at 3rd Quarter. Twenty-one new members were eligible for this incentives. The drawing was held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter

Teleconference. The winners were Angelique Sackes, Samuel Sackes, Dechan Medley and Bentalena Moses.

#### **For District Convention/Fourth Quarter:**

2 new members and their sponsors from October 1-April 14 will be drawn for FREE Registration and 1 night (Saturday) room. This could

potentially result in 4 rooms and 4 registrations at our convention in Gettysburg. This drawing will occur at our 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board meeting to be held on May 7, 2016 at The Inn at Reading Hotel. The winners are not transferable.



"New members are the life  
blood of our organization "

## New Members

### **South Chester:**

Allegra Moses, Angelique Sackes, Mercedes Fields, Nikki Blake, Marian Burt, Chan Medley, Samuel Sackes, Joyce Anderson, Rabria Brooks, Lorraine Francis, Zephi Francis, Sylvia Hair, Diana Mathis, Dachan Medley, Bentalea Moses, Kathy Parsons, Shalegra Torrence, Carolyn Vonner-Hill, Carmen Wright, Christopher Garrett, Akesha Gainer, Lenny Bryant, Angela Prattis, Lorenzo Cruger, Viveca Holmes, Leonard Heard, Aquilla Harris, Laurence Hamm, Jr., Charles Rutledge, Patric Barrett, II, Leslie Harris, Daniel Kenny, Scott Rothwell, Suzanne Campbell, Ti'Nera Richrdson, Craig Haywood

### **Dream Builders:**

Ami Azandegbe, Jackie Vanloan, Samantha Paradise, Adu Lawrence, Shyla Mackeverican,

### **Galilee**

### **Community:**

Leonard Lamina

### **Douglassville-**

**Daniel Boone:** Emily Frederick, Susan Straub

### **Boyertown:**

Rodney Martin, David Pellerier, Joshua Stoudt, Jeffery Boalton, David Bellino, Sandra Biedler, Julie Adamski, Melissa Leatherman,, Kimberly Matlack, Traci Meitzier, Brad Smith, Brian Swiderski, Aaron Tyson, Stephanie Wilkinson, Bridgette Wise, Christine Simeone, Ashley Forke, Pedro Delgado, John Iacubacci, Rob Osborne, Edward Artim, Jr. James Butler, Joseph Smith

### **Kutztown:**

Brian Ghessi, Steve Wood, Steven Wehr

### **Friend of Optimist:**

Ellen Sholevar, JGA Tour

### **Rose Tree**

**Media:** Amanda Pelc, George Moore

### **Indiana:**

Brian Force

### **Mercer:**

Katlin Mcelrath

### **Freehold-**

### **Sunrise:**

Maureen Fasano

### **Barnegat:**

Anne Kelleher

### **Valley Forge-**

### **King of Prussia:**

Nora Knight, Carole Hoy

### **Lower Montco:**

Kate Harper, Christine Crosby

## Optimist Tree of Service

The inspiration to use the **Tree of Service** for Optimist came about during the 1981 Installation Dinner for the Optimist Club of Lower Montco of the Delaware Pennsylvania District. This image is a fascinating picture of Optimism. Once you see the Tree, the thousand words created in your mind express the world of service that Optimists do for themselves and their themselves and their communities.

The roots of the Tree are grounded in **Club Activity**. Pillars such as Membership, Leadership Training, Committees, Public Relations, New Members from Activities,

and Personal Involvement are as important today as they were in the early eighties when Lower Montco was chartered. These roots are the core of our strength. The Club Activities are what ground us as optimists. The members gather their fortitude from within the Club, then they are able to reach out into the community.

Once rooted, Optimists can branch out into **Community Service**. Individuals interested in uplifting and supporting our youth can do these functions through a variety of services. We Optimists have a choice to focus on culture, education,

government, sports, recreation, community, health, safety, or any other endeavor. Community service is a way to invest in young people. This is what we do as optimists-we **bring out the best** in our youth through our outreach to others that is grounded in our various club activities.

As we prepare to celebrate 35 years as an organization, we can reflect and thank two of our organizers: Ozzie and Webster.

Congratulations Lower Montco on all you do and recognizing your founding members.

**Atlantic Central District**

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Scott21857\_80@msn.com

*Just Do It!*

## About Our Organization

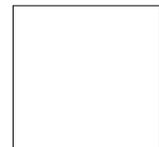
The Atlantic Central District's mission is to provide resources, leadership, and training.

We do this in an effort to help our clubs grow their membership, spread the Optimist Creed and thrive in their efforts at "bringing out the best in kids".

How can we accomplish this goal? By providing the most experienced Optimist leadership, by offering ongoing training at our quarterly conferences, through regular communication and access to the International web site.

[www.optimistleaders.org](http://www.optimistleaders.org)

S



**CUSTOMER NAME**  
STREET ADDRESS