DMM
District Dispatch

Edition 2 Dakotas Manitoba Minnesota District November 1, 2011

DMM Optimist of the Month – Becca Scholtz

Becca Scholz is a chartered member and current Treasurer of the Bennie-Johnnie College Club in Minnesota. The Club lost 22 of its members and Becca signed up 26 new members to replace the deletions and grow the Club!

For her recruitment efforts, Becca has earned a $1,440.00 donation for the Optimist International Foundation. For 3 new members, she earned Dime a Day, for 5 new members she earned the Women's Philanthropy Council, for 10 new members she earned the President's Club and for 25 new members she earned the Christian D Larson award.

If Becca is unable to attend the DMM District meeting in November, Zone 9 Lieutenant Governor Don Berger will make the presentation to her at a Club or Zone function.

Becca Scholz is a junior at Bennie-Johnnie studying business management. I predict that she is on her way to a successful career in Marketing & Sales. I hope your Club will nominate you for the Roger L Haas DMM Optimist of the Year for 2011-12. Thank-you Becca and Congratulations!

Yours in Optimism,
Larry Pelzer
District Governor

Optimist International Foundation/Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation 1st Quarter Request:

For the Holiday Silent Auction at the 1st Quarter Meeting please bring gently used Christmas Items; ornaments, Santas, snowmen, elves, movies, cookie cutters, etc.

Also we would like to set up a Cookie Auction. For all who love to bake please bring a dozen of your favorite cookies for the Holiday auction.
Just bring them with you to the First Quarter Meeting on November 4th in Fargo, ND.

All names of the Club Foundation Representatives that were received by Oct 31/11 will be placed into a drawing at the 1st District meeting for a $10 Perkins Certificate. You do not need to be present to win. However, if you are present, and your name is drawn, the $10 Perkins Certificate will "Magically" turn into a $20 Perkins Certificate.

Send those Club Foundation Representative names to: Susan Fix, 1106 S. Jefferson, New Ulm, MN 56073 or email them to: fixks@newulmtel.net .
Susan Fix,
DMM OI Foundation Chairperson

Deja Vu!"

DMM District Governor 2011-12
Larry Pelzer

DMM District Secretary/Treasurer
Jo-Anne Pelzer

DMM District Governor Elect
Wes Shewchuk

DMM District Immediate Past-Governor
Pat Sechser

DMM Past Governor
Sue Fix

Great Plains Region Vice President
Judy Boyd

International President 2011-12
John "Jack" Creswell

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Editor -*Trudy Rougeau*
If you have any write-ups please email them to me by the 25th of each month at Trudy.rougeau@gwl.ca

COMMUNICATION CONTEST
for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Have you asked if your district has a hearing impaired program in your school system? If not, where do your hearing impaired students go to school? This is the time to make these inquiries!

Find out who is teaching these students and introduce yourself to the staff. Let them know we have a great scholarship opportunity for the hearing impaired. Students only need a hearing loss of 40- decibels. Any student up to grade 12 can participate so don't exclude the 14 and 15 year olds.

I am told the hearing impaired don't think they can give a speech. You have to tell them last year's winner did not say a word. He signed the entire speech and walked away with a $2500 scholarship.

If you only have one local participant, you can send him/her to the District competition. No Zone contest is needed. So get out there and provide a hearing impaired student with the opportunity to win a $2500 scholarship. The District contest is May 4-5 in Watertown.

If you have questions, email me a gbisek@charter.net or call 320-253-1462.
Ginny Bisek

2011-2012 Optimist Oratorical Contest

Topic**: "How my Optimism Helps me Overcome Obstacles"**

Put May 4-5, 2012 on your calendar. This is the date for this year's District Oratorical contest in Watertown. It's time to start planning this year's contest.

Check with your Lt. Gov as to the date for your Zone Contest. Zone contests must be completed by April 21st. Local contests will need to be scheduled before the Zone contest. Secure your club chair and begin planning. Contact your local Toastmasters, youth groups, and schools, let your imagination go as to how to promote this project. Our district holds a Gender distinct contest, therefore, there will be a District Girl winner and a District Boy winner. Each will receive a $2,500 scholarship. One or both of these winners could be from your community.

For questions or assistance, contact Rick Johnson, District Chairman, at 763-421-8863, or Optimistrick@q.com.

You can also go on line to: www.optimist.org/members/programs/scholarship contests for an oratorical club chair packet.

Message from DMM Secretary Treasurer

Hello Club Officers, especially the Club Secretary,
Have you checked your club roster on www.optimistleaders.org?

If any member's name appears in RED, it means that their magazine has been returned to the Optimist International office and their address needs to be checked. Click on the member's name and EDIT the information if you have it.

You can also print your club roster. Click on REPORTS on the right hand side and then select club roster. It's a useful handout for your officers and committee chairs. I scanned my report to make sure that I had everyone's phone number and email address in the OI database.
This report also provides the name of every member's sponsor, let's you know who is a Life Member, a Charter member, a College member, a Friend of Optimist and their PGI levels.

If you select Club Roster and DELETED MEMBERS, you will get all of the active members as well as the members you have deleted from your club.

Your Membership Chair will find this useful. Perhaps, you will find someone interested in being a member again.

How do you log on to www.optimistleaders.org? Select your officer position, your user ID is your club number and your password is zipcodelastname. Check it out.

YIO (Yours in Optimism),
Jo-Anne Pelzer

Boutique Consignment order

We will have a consignment order at the 1st District Meeting in Fargo so members can expect to see new stuff in the boutique.

Optimist International Essay Contest

Topic: "How my Positive Outlook Benefits my Community

Who: Youth under the age of 18 as of December 31 of the current school year (December 31, 2011) who have not yet graduated from high school or the equivalent.

When:

Students

All Club-level contests are held by early February.

Clubs and Districts

The deadline for Clubs to submit their winning essay to the District Chair is February 28, 2012. The deadline for Districts to submit their winner's information to Optimist International is April 15, 2012.

Essay Contest Quick Links

- Contest Application (Rules Pad)
- Club Planning Guide
- District Planning Guide

Club winners advance to the District contest to compete for a $2,500 college scholarship. The District-level scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundations. District winners are entered into the International Essay Contest, where a panel of judges selects a first-place winner. The international winner will receive an engraved plaque and recognition in *The Optimist* magazine.

For an Essay Contest Package – go to the Optimist International website under the programs section. Clubs can find useful materials to help them get started with a new Essay Contest program.
For additional information, please contact Optimist International Programs Department by e-mail at programs@optimist.org, or call (800) 500-8130.
For more information contact Sally Damm at sallydamm3@mchsi.com

New Club for DMM District!

On Tuesday, October 25, 2011, the Lakes Area Optimist Club 35-019, Brainerd, Minnesota was chartered with 22 members. Brainerd is 129 miles NNW of Minneapolis. The sponsoring clubs are St Cloud morning and St Cloud Noon. The Builders of Excellence are Past Gov & current Lt Gov, Don Berger, Past Lt Gov Greg Anderson, Club Pres James Gasperlin and Past Gov Don Clauson.

The Lakes Area Club Vice President will be at the 1st qtr meeting in Fargo on November 4-5, 2011. Please extend a warm DMM welcome to the newest members of Optimist International.

What's happening around the District:

The Optimist club of Duluth plans to double their membership this year. Membership will be discussed at every meeting. - Charlie Heimulluer

Watertown Optimist club has a unique way of collecting donations for their Childhood Cancer program. Each meeting they have a segment called "Happy Dollars". Members donate a dollar or more to share a happy moment or happy thought with everyone and their donations go their Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Optimist Club of West St. Paul held the first session of their new Learn to Bowl program at West Side Lanes in West St. Paul. Sixty students from Garlough, Moreland, and Heritage learned how to bowl, including how to safely pick up a bowling ball and approach the lane.
We Optimists learned something, too; a lane is 60 feet – from the foul line to the pins. Next week, students will learn to score.\

"When you dance, your purpose is not to get to a certain place on the floor. It's to enjoy each step along the way."
- Wayne Dyer

Please send a copy of your club bulletin to myself for the bulletin award for our Optimist year of 2011/2012 More on building your club bulletin in next's month's newsletter.

Trudy Rougeau,
trudy.rougeau@gwl.ca or
trudyr2010@gmail.com

NEW PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY:

Operation Homefront

Hello!
We would like to invite you to participate in our annual Holiday Toy Drive in conjunction with Dollar Tree Stores nationwide. We hope you will join us in collecting and distributing these toys so we may assist the military families in your area. If you have already pre-registered to participate in this program within the last two weeks, please disregard this email. If you registered last year or for the back to school program, you will need to register again.

About the program: Each year Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree help make the holiday season a little bit easier on our military families by providing them with holiday toys for their children. With the help of our volunteers and great charity partners like Soldier's Angels, we are able to unite the military and civilian communities to deliver over 5 million toys to military children. Your support is crucial to our success and we could not assist as many service members and their families without your help!

From November 1 - December 6, 2011, Dollar Tree stores nationwide will be collecting toys for military children. As you register in our system, you will see a list of all Dollar Tree stores in your area. The system will allow you to select up to 10 stores. Some stores in your area may no longer be available. Each store will be provided with the OH point of contact's information - that's you! After you have selected the stores you'd like to cover, you'll be responsible for:
• Contacting your store to introduce yourself and make arrangements for a convenient weekly pick up time.
• Picking up the donations within 24-48 hours when the store advises your items are available.
• Being courteous to store staff as they represent our very important donor.
• Distributing all items collected to military children.

Please click on the following link to register for the Dollar Tree Holiday Toy Program:>https://www.operationhomefront.net/collectionvolunteerform.aspx?id=13989

The national program contact:
LaJuana Hector, VP of Programs
210-549-4604
Email: lajuana.hector@operationhomefront.net

Thank you,
Danna Bernaden
Executive Assistant to COO
Direct (210) 549-4601 | Tel (210) 659-7756 | Fax (210) 549-4651
www.operationhomefront.net

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

Optimist International

It's not so important who starts the game but who finishes it."
- John Wooden

Please send a copy of your newsletters to Jack & Cheryl Dyvig for A&A points. Their email addresses are johndyvig@sio.midco.net and cheryldyvig@sio.midco.net.