



DMM District Dispatch

Issue 17.18.05

February 2018



Kevin's Korner

Once upon a time, in a land far away, there lived a very bright and trustworthy young woman. Having learned all she could in her own village, she set out to explore the neighboring lands. After a time, she came upon a great city surrounded by a huge castle wall. "Surely I can learn something new from the people here," she thought to herself. But after entering the city, she found its people too frightened and depressed to share any wisdom. "Why is everyone here so sad?" she asked.

One trembling citizen answered, "Today is the day the giant comes."

"Giant?" she scoffed in disbelief. "There's no such thing as giants!"

"Oh, but there is," came a response. "He stands over 10 feet tall! So tall, he can't rightly be called a man at all."

Skeptical, but intrigued, the young woman pleaded, "Tell me more of this giant."

So the frightened citizen nervously explained to her, "Every year, on the same day, and at the same hour, he comes down from the mountain where he lives. He stands at the edge of the clearing and yells, 'Send out your bravest man for me to fight, or I will knock down these walls and kill everyone inside!' Each year, one poor valiant soul steps out to face the giant, and there he stands, mesmerized by the giant's enormity

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**Optimist Strong—
Be the Difference!**

H. Nick Prillaman, Jr.

2017-2018 Officers

**DMM Governor
Kevin Hammell**

**DMM Secretary/Treas.
Bill Reilly**

**International President
H. Nick Prillaman, Jr.**

**Great Plains Region VP
Roger Lesofski**

**DMM Governor Elect
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**DMM Immediate
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Terry Gorman**

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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.

Kevin's Korner

(Continued from page 1)

and the impossible task ahead. And every year, the giant slays the poor warrior where he stands before he even has a chance to draw his sword. The warrior doesn't even move. It's as if he is hypnotized."

Eyes wide with fascination, the woman begs, "Can I see this giant?"

"The only way to see the giant," the citizen explained, "is to face him in battle."

Still in disbelief but eager to learn, the woman responded, "Then that is what I will do! I will face your giant today."

Shortly thereafter, at the appointed hour, the giant's distant but powerful voice was heard over the castle walls, "Send out your bravest man for me to fight, or I will knock down these walls and kill everyone inside!" Unshaken, the young woman stepped out through the castle gate to face her opponent.

She looked out across the clearing to the edge of the forest at the foothills of the mountain. Sure enough, there stood an enormous giant! For a moment, she just stood and stared at him from a distance. There was a gentle rise in the ground separating the two, so she could only see him from the waist up. It was difficult to tell exactly how big he was, but he was clearly taller than any man she had ever seen or heard of. She was struck with the same awe and terror all of her predecessors surely felt at that moment. The giant was real. And facing him today, she would surely die. She considered running back inside the castle walls. But she had given her word to the good people inside to face their giant. So with all the bravery she could muster, she began to walk tentatively toward the giant. And the giant began to walk toward her.

After a few paces up the gentle incline, she gained full line of sight to the giant, and could see his whole form. With this better angle, she could tell he was not nearly the 10 feet in height she first believed, perhaps only 7 feet tall. He was still massive, but at least now in human proportions. She was still no match for him, but at least she would meet her defeat at the hands of something recognizable.

With that element of the unknown removed, she was able to walk at a normal pace. And after a few more steps, the giant appeared to be smaller still.

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Editor: Curt Sandberg

THANKS to everyone that submitted articles for this newsletter. For those who wish to submit articles for future issues, please email them to me at dmmdispatch@midco.net by the 27th of each month. Thank you!



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Kevin's Korner

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Was this some strange optical illusion? The giant appeared to be not much bigger than she was now. She might actually have a fighting chance! With this new hope, her pace quickened. And with every step, she could tell it was no illusion. The giant was actually shrinking before her very eyes, and the faster she ran, the faster the giant shrank.

Her terror had turned to hope, and now that hope had turned to confidence. Certain of her victory, she was now in an all-out sprint toward the giant. As she reached the middle of the clearing she stopped and stood toe to toe with the giant, who was now only 12 inches tall and still shrinking quickly. She reached down and picked him up in the palm of her hand. She only had time to ask him one question before he shrank down to the size of a grain of sand and blew away in the next gust of wind.

"Who are you?" she asked earnestly.

The giant responded in a tiny and dwindling voice, "I am known by many names. To the Chinese, I am kǒngjù. To the Greeks, I am phobos. But to your people, brave one, I am known simply as. . . fear."

She had come to this village to learn something. And indeed she had. If you face your fears and confront them with confidence, they will shrink before your very eyes.

[From the book, [Lead with a Story](#). By Paul Smith]

Whether facing a giant in battle or asking someone if they would like to join the Optimists, the fear of failure can be debilitating. It can paralyze us and prevent us from even trying. As the great hockey player Wayne Gretzky said, "You miss 100% of the shots not taken". In other words, if you don't ask, it will always be a no. So get out there and **ask** people, "How would you like to help the kids in our community be successful or help give them a better life?" or "Would you like to meet a group of people that offer hope to each other and their community?" or "How would you like to come to our Optimist Breakfast and learn about things in our city that you probably don't know about?" Depending on your situation, these are just a few of the ways you can invite new people. You may even get new members from the speakers you invite to talk.

Another great way to grow your club is to hold a NOW (New Optimists Wanted) event. And **now** is an especially good time for a NOW event in your club! President Nick has a great second quarter growth incentive:

(Continued on page 4)

DMM / OI Gatherings

SAVE the DATES for 2017-18

2nd Qtr Conf Call

7PM CST, Sun., February 11, 2018

Refer to Online Meeting info on Page 5 of this issue.

3rd Qtr DMM Gathering Scholarship Contests!

April 27-28, 2018

Ramkota Hotel

Watertown, SD

605-886-8011

100th OI Convention

July 7-10, 2018

Ottawa, Ontario

4th Quarter DMM Conv.

August 9-11, 2018

Hotel: *The Kahler Apache*

Rochester, MN

Got Canadian coin?

If you attended the DMM convention last August in Winnipeg, you likely ended up with some Canadian coin. If those coins are collecting dust in a coin dish or bulking up your wallet, why not donate them to the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation?

I will gladly accept them at the DMM 3rd Quarter Meeting in Watertown, SD.

Jo-Anne Pelzer

DMM CCOF Representative

larrypel@mymts.net



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Recruit **seven** new Members into any adult Optimist Club OR charter a **new Junior Optimist Club** in the 2nd Quarter and receive your choice of:

- Roll-up Optimist Creed banner
- Roll-up Optimist Purposes banner
- Optimist road sign

For questions, contact membership@optimist.org.

The growth of our Clubs is the main priority for the health and success of Optimist International. The 2nd Quarter Incentive is targeted at our local Clubs to encourage them to add new adult Optimist Members. Additionally, new Junior Optimist Clubs are a key to future successes and an area of opportunity. Roll-up banners are a sought-after item for Clubs and Optimist road signs are a valuable tool for local branding and marketing of our Clubs in their local communities.

In addition to asking people to be an Optimist, we also need to make sure we are doing everything we can to keep them. I did some research and found the following four tips to be some of the most important out of all of them.

Tip #1: Reach Out Early and Often

For members who fail to find value in their membership, it's often due to not fully using the benefits of membership. This could be a lack of knowledge or even just a matter of forgetting. For this reason it's important to stay in touch with your members. You can do this through messages in your online community, phone calls, and through emails.

Tip #2: Start Your Retention Program on Day One

The first day of membership should be the only time you send a mass email with limited personalization. That very first contact can be a welcome format, everything after that should be aimed at maintaining that member. Educate them on benefits and stay in touch. You can't begin a retention program six weeks before annual membership is due. Your membership retention program starts the second they agree to become a member.

Tip #3: Customize Your Approach/Communications Wherever Possible

One-size membership no longer fits all. People expect a customized approach. As we mentioned earlier, personalization should never fall out of priority. Consider that personalized subject lines are 22.2% more likely to be opened. This means customizing all types of communications and interactions. If you're not providing an experience that feels personal, you can assume your members feel like a number. And that is never a reason to renew.

Tip #4: Find Out Why They Joined and Do More of It

Every member has a reason they joined. Find out what it was, what problem they thought membership could solve for them, and you have the secret sauce behind member retention. Use that information to customize your offerings and your communications. Consider launching a discussion forum or survey where you can collect those stories from your most active members.

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The more members we keep, the easier it is to grow our clubs and make them healthy. The more new members we get, the more new ideas we get and the more children we can help. The more members each club has, the more people we have to share the work load.

When you are inviting others, just show them your passion and tell your story of why you are an Optimist. If they see how excited it makes you, they are more likely to say yes. Then once they say yes, make sure to keep them engaged. Ask them to help with a project or if they have an idea for a project and then help them make it a reality! So now is the time to get started. Once you start taking steps toward your goal, you will find it wasn't that big of a problem after all.

Let's work on growing and improving our clubs. Let's increase engagement and learn what our members want and can help with. Let's go out and find more communities that need a group like ours to improve the lives of more people in those communities. If anyone needs help with anything, please contact your Lt. Governor, a District Chair, or me with your questions or concerns. With everyone's help, we can grow this organization into something that everyone will want to be involved in! We can be a distinguished district again!

In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, "Believe you can and you're halfway there."

Optimist Strong – Be the Difference – Be a Leader

Kevin Hammell

kahammell@charter.net

DMM Governor

2nd Qtr Online Meeting Instructions

1. Dial Into the Conference:

Dial-in Number: (563) 999-2090 - United States

Access Code: 486408

International Dial-in Numbers: <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/kahammell/#international>

2. Join the Online Meeting:

Online Meeting Link: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/kahammell>

Online Meeting ID: kahammell

Instructions:

- At the scheduled date and time of the meeting, dial in to the conference line. When prompted, enter the access code followed by hash (#).
- To join the online meeting, click on the meeting link listed above and follow the prompts to join the meeting.
- For 24/7 customer service please call (844) 844-1322

Also go to <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/video-tutorials>

To learn more about this free service.



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Club News

from club bulletins

WATERTOWN — 65 hockey sticks which sported bright yellow Optimist club stickers were given out and cut to fit 3-8 year old beginners, used 'Speaker Suggestion' slips at a couple meetings to garner ideas, helped support Watertown Area Swim Club whose membership has multiplied 2.5 times since 2011, and will have a team in the Junior Achievement Bowling Tourney on Feb 2,.

ROCHESTER — is busy preparing for their 16th Frozen Goose Run/Walk to be held Feb 3rd to support Childhood Cancer and Brighter Tomorrows. DMM Governor, Kevin Hammell even appeared as a guest speaker!

RICHFIELD — has installed a Past President's display at their meeting site, is selling tickets for their Feb 9th Chili/Salad luncheon fundraiser, will be selling Herberger's coupon books, and is looking into teaming up with Bloomington Optimists to staff a MN Twins concession stand as a summer fundraiser. AND...an Avenue of Flags customer stopped by to see what the club was all about, visited a second time, and joined the next week!

SIoux VALLEY — Chartered the Titan Junior Optimist Club at New Tech High School! Angie Wahl was assisted by Gita Henricks and Dave Martin in building this club of 30 that has already begun several youth service projects. Their club continues their involvement with the Youth Center [formerly the Bowden Center that

DMM Optimists visited when the Convention was held in Sioux Falls], the Children's Home Society, and the Fostering Hope Jump event.

BISMARCK — utilized their Pay-It-Forward idea to secure daily sponsors for the Gift Wrap fundraiser to set a new record which will enable them to continue to support the youth in the Capital City. Club members and other volunteer wrappers pretty much split over 800 hours of wrapping. They continue to pack backpacks for United Way each month.

SOUTH WINNIPEG — heard from OHEYS an organization that provides a summer camp for youth and young adults with autism. They sold all 900 Grey Cup raffle tickets and were prepping for Super Bowl raffle ticket sales as another fundraiser.

PRIOR LAKE-SAVAGE — 27% of the club's budget goes towards scholarships and 31% to education projects with three other categories garnering 15% or less each. They continue to consolidate club documents on a Google docs site. AND...they remind sponsors to mentor new members to get them to participate, not just join!

WORTHINGTON — held a NOW Meeting with six attendees, will hold a Tri-Star Basketball event on Feb 10, and continue their financial support of the local Robotics Team as well as youth wrestling.

RUSHMORE NOON — used Survey Monkey to get club members input on the best date/time/meeting format for them to get maximum participation from their membership.

EDEN PRAIRIE — reported their final Christmas Tree sales, continued planning for Essay and Oratorical Con-

(Continued on page 13)



Mission, Vision & Purposes

Mission: By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

Vision: Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values all children and helps them develop to their full potential.

Purposes: To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed; to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs; to inspire respect for the law; to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people; to aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.

Club Anniversaries

During February

Northwest Suburban
February 3, 1966

Brandon
February 28, 1969

Sioux Valley
February 25, 1976

New Ulm
February 27, 1997



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Growth / Membership

January – a new calendar year, but not for our Optimist year. Four months have already passed! The children are waiting...for YOU! Our clubs lost 32 members in January.



Our district is closing out the month with a -62 YTD!

That means that 2170 kids are NOT feeling our love and support...come on...let's show the world what it means to be an Optimist!

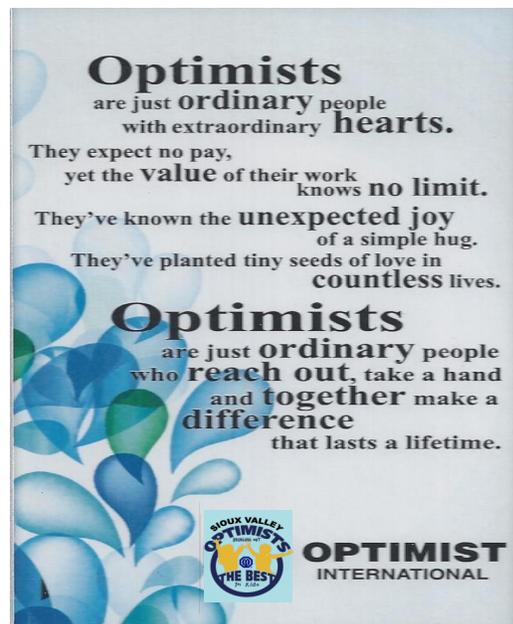


...the month of LOVE! Show your love for the KIDS. We are ordinary people making a difference in the lives of the children and communities we touch with our love.

Invite your friends to join you in making that difference.

THANK YOU to these 10 clubs that shared their love in January, bringing in 17 new members. 595 youth and 10 communities are feeling the love!

- Club: 35153 - SOUTH WINNIPEG, MB (Zone: 1)
- Club: 35014 - BISMARCK, ND (Zone: 3)
- Club: 35078 - GRAND FORKS, ND (Zone: 4)
- Club: 35150 - SIOUX FALLS MORNING (SFMO), SD (Zone: 7)
- Club: 35151 - SIOUX FALLS-SIOUX VALLEY, SD (Zone: 7)
- Club: 35075 - NORTHWEST SUBURBAN, MN (Zone: 10)
- Club: 35125 - RICHFIELD, MN (Zone: 10)
- Club: 35156 - BLOOMINGTON-BREAKFAST, MN (Zone: 10)
- Club: 35227 - SAINT PAUL EAST SIDE, MN (Zone: 11)
- Club: 35232 - ROSEVILLE AREA, MN (Zone: 11)



Gita Hendricks — DMM Growth Chair
gita.hendricks@gmail.com



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Reminders . . .

Feb	1	Finalize local Oratorical and CCDHH contests
	11	DMM Leaders 7 PM CST / 6 PM MST -- 2nd Qtr Conference Call with Governor Kevin
	15	Sec/Treas US Clubs' IRS 990 deadline
	28	Essay Chair Deadline for Essay submissions to DMM Essay Chair, Linda Grulke

2018 Club Oratorical Contests

With the start of the New Year, the Oratorical Contest is right around the corner. It is time to make contacts to find contestants for this year's contest and organize your Club Contest.

The first thing you need is the Club Chair Planning Guide and you can find this on the Optimist International Website at www.optimist.org/e/member/scholarships4.cfm. On the right side of the page you will find: Contest Application, Club Planning Guide, and District Planning Guide highlighted in orange. As Club Chairperson, you want the "Club Planning Guide".

Other helpful information specific to the DMM District Scholarship contest information can be found on the DMM web at: <http://www.optimist-dmm.org/contest-info/>.

As soon as you are positive that you will be sending your club winner on to the Zone Contest, please let your Lt. Gov. know your intentions and specifically whether you will be sending one or two contestants to the next level contest.

This year's contest must be a combined gender contest so you may send one boy and one girl, two boys, or two girls to the next contest level.

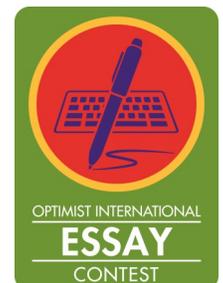
The next important task to find out is what date the Lt. Gov. is having the Zone Contest so you can have your Club Contest before that date and be able to send the winners information as defined in the Club Planning Guide to your Lt. Gov.

The Club Planning Guide is excellent in identifying what needs to be completed by when, but if you have any questions, you should discuss these with your Lt. Gov.

Dave Nichols
DMM Oratorical Chair
nicholsedina@aol.com



2017-2018 Essay Scholarship Contest



This year's topic is "Can Society Function without Respect?"

The contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people room to develop their own ideas around a central idea. The deadline for clubs to submit their winning essay to the District is February 28, 2018. Students were under the age of 18 as October 2, 2017 are eligible. Please mail your winning essay with completed application and proof of age to me by the 28th.

I hope you have had an enjoyable and rewarding experience with your own Scholarship Contest and getting to know the amazing young people of your community.

Thank you for your service,

Linda Grulke
DMM Essay Chair
1730 Graham Ave, Apt 330
St. Paul, MN 55116
Linda.Grulke@edwardjones.com



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2018 International Convention

The 100th Optimist International Convention will be held in July 8-10, 2018 in Ottawa, Ontario Canada at the [Shaw Centre](#). This will be one of the best and most noted Optimist conventions for years to come. You will have ample opportunities to attend workshops, meet old and new Optimist friends from around the world, see and visit the historical sites and the capital city of Canada. Let's try to get a good turn from the DMM.



Online registration is now live at www.optimist.org/convention.

Here is a link to find what to see and do in Ottawa <https://www.ottawatourism.ca/>

If you are planning on attending I recommend you make your room reservation as soon as possible. Click on the link for room options [Convention Housing Options](#)

For a video and more information about Ottawa click this link. <http://www.optimist.org/Member/convention.cfm>

Terry Gorman
gorman1745@gmail.com
International Convention Ambassador

Get New Passports!

Clubs may request revised PGI (Personal Growth & Involvement) passports by sending an email to Jackie Moore at moorej@optimist.org. There is a maximum of 50 passports that may be requested each year.

The PGI program was revised in 2017. Any PGI level that was not already achieved and recognized by Optimist International must be completed using the revised requirements.

Club officers may view their club members' PGI achievements by downloading their club's roster. The PGI level earned is now listed under column AW of the downloaded club roster.

Cheryl Bergstrom
ckbergstrom@hotmail.com
DMM Personal Development Chair

Sioux Valley Builds New JOI club

The DMM District has a new Junior Optimist Club, as of January 5, 2018, with the official recognition of the Titan Junior Optimist Club at New Tech High School in Sioux Falls, SD.

The 30-member club was built by the Sioux Valley Optimist Club under the leadership of District JOI Chair Angie Wahl, assisted by club president, Greg Honl, club secretary, Dave Martin, and District Growth Chair, Gita Hendricks.

The club meets each Tuesday during their lunch hour and has already assisted its parent club with activities at the Boys & Girls Club and Fostering Hope, in addition to just completing a food drive as part of the JOI National Souper-Bowl of Caring.

New Tech High is a project-based learning school that teaches exploration and inquiry in small group collaborative settings as they develop presentations to demonstrate their knowledge and skills, while still completing the regular curriculum requirements.



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WE ARE DISTINGUISHED!

To all the members of the DMM District. It is with great pride and honor that I announce the DMM District has again attained the status of Distinguished District!

To attain the recognition of Distinguished District it is a significant milestone only to be accomplished by the hard work, dedication and optimism of every member of DMM to exceed the goals set forth by the OI Recognition Program requirements ICD 135 [<click here for the requirements>](#)

In addition, to the DMM being distinguished, Lori Cook has been awarded the Distinguished District Secretary-Treasurer, and Adam Walsh, Lt Governor for Zone 7 has been awarded Distinguished Lt Governor.

The following clubs, Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers and members are recognized for attaining Best = B, Honor Club = H and **Distinguished = D** status.

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CLUB #	ZONE	PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER	Best	Honor	Distinguished
35042 Dickinson, ND	2	Jason Kraft	Alica Palaniuk	Alica Palaniuk	B		
35111 Minot, ND	2	Candace Brekke	Melainie R Moore	Neil Moore	B		
35014 Bismarck, ND	3	Jerry Haas	Sylvia Burgess	Tom Miller	B	H	D
35096 Jamestown, ND	3	Dell Horn	Lisa Jackson	A. J. Motacek	B		
35065 Fargo, ND	4	Bob Lever	Barbara R Bertschi	Aloysius S Schwindt	B		
35078 Grand Forks, ND	4	Timothy J Goetz	Nicole Kringstad	Cheryl J Fuchs	B	H	
35116 Black Hills Noon, SD	5	Malcom Chapman	Donald R Stover	Donald R Stover	B	H	D
35027 Brookings, SD	6	Dee Bormann	Emerald Anderson	Richard D Brubakken	B	H	
35166 Watertown, SD	6	Henry (Hank) Roso	Carmen Bakken	Carmen Bakken	B		
35216 Mitchell, SD	6	Jen Johnston	Brad Zomer	Ashley J Thompson	B		
35001 Brandon Valley ND	7	Jeremy Risty	Tom Wullstein	Jon Hartsuiker	B	H	
35115 Yankton-Morning, SD	7	Bretty Viau	Brenda F Spencer	Perry Ford	B		
35150 Sioux Falls Morning, SD	7	Ken Munch	Lisa Van Overbeke	Larry Eickhoff	B	H	D
35151 Sioux Falls -Sioux Valley SD	7	Aled Hofkamp	David C Martin	Carla Wilson	B		
35231 Vermillion, SD	7	Dennis Steffen	Danielle Smith	Jay Thaler	B	H	
35171 Worthington, MN	8	Heidi Hanten	Larry Ailts	Larry Ailts	B		
35018 Bennie Johnnie, MN	9	Abby Riegelman	Grace Livermore	Matty McGarvey	B	H	
35130 Central MN Noon, MN	9	Wade D Bastian	Jane Holmberg	Chris Schuver	B	H	
35131 St Cloud, MN	9	Tom Seamans	Shari Wahlin	Jacki Templin	B	H	
35124 Prior Lake - Savage, MN	10	Kristi Erickson	Amy L Raetz	Amy L Raetz	B	H	D
35140 St Paul, MN	11	Tom Distad	Terry K Gorman	Terry K Gorman	B	H	D
35232 Roseville, MN	11	Donald Salverda	David Shaps	Zola Burns	B	H	D



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At the 3rd Quarter meeting in Watertown, SD, April 27 & 28 these Clubs and their Club President and Secretary-Treasurers will be recognized for their significant achievement of attaining "Bring Out the Best Club", Honor and Distinguished status.

I would like to thank all the members of the DMM leadership team for all their hard work, commitment and Optimism in setting their goals high, to their commitment to the DMM, our clubs, members and our youth and never wavering to get their job done. To the Builders of Excellence without your drive and effort the three new clubs would not have been chartered. You are truly the unsung heroes! Thank You!

Again, I wish to congratulate all the clubs and members of the DMM for their significant commitment and contribution to Bring out the Best in Youth, Our Communities and Ourselves.



YEA!

Give me, No – I'll GIVE YOU!



Yours in Optimism,
Terry K Gorman
Distinguished Governor 2016-2017
gorman1745@gmail.com



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Strategic Planning Committee

Progress continues to inch along



**STRATEGIC
PLANNING**

Although there hasn't been a lot of noise coming from the Strategic Planning Committee(s), there is progress being made in the trenches among several members of the Steering Committee in small group and individual phone sessions.

For instance, Gov. Kevin, Gov-Elect Dave and Technology Chair Tim Goetz (and others) have been working on creating ways to deliver training modules and holding conference calls via various video platforms. Kevin, Dave and Leadership Development Chair Don Stover have been discussing ways to energize and expand those leadership sessions.

Several members of the group have been providing specific ideas on how to create a more "festive" atmosphere at each of our district meetings, including adding significant youth participation.

There are also proposals being developed by Dave and Budget/Finance Chair Greg Honl and others to find ways of raising funds for current and future DMM youth programs, which would also insure the preservation of the DMM logo.

And, Gov-Elect Dave has just returned from a 3-day Gov-Elect Conference in St. Louis with a sack full of ideas to implement next year (including OI's year-long Centennial Celebration). And as you read this issue of the Dispatch, Gov Kevin is attending a similar 2-day Governor's Mid-year Conference in St. Louis.

These are just a few of the items being discussed and researched, so watch for more exciting plans and promotions (and Steering Committee meetings) between now and our 3rd Quarter Gathering in Wattertown.

Optimistically, Pumped-up and Excited,

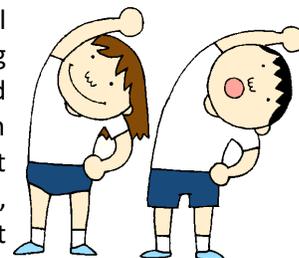
Dave Martin

DMM Strategic Planning Chair and Governor-Elect

svsec7111@gmail.com

Having Problems? Call the Fitness Folks

Here's hoping all clubs are enjoying smooth sailing and all is well. But, in this imperfect world we live in, we know that smooth roads



sometimes develop a few bumps – and that may cause a few bruises. But never fear, because the Fitness Folks are always nearby.

So if you are in a quandary as to how to "fix" something, or are looking for a new "twist" to put on a project, or even a "shot in the arm – or other places" to give you a jump start, please call your nearest medic – otherwise known as the Fitness Folks (or doctors, if you prefer).

We are located in the zone in which you live (most refer to us as Lt. Governors), or if you wish to call the Chief Fixer himself (that would be me), please do so.

We specialize in all areas of club health – apathy, mental and physical fatigue (mostly related to aging and overwork), stress, aggravation, etc., etc.

And the price is right – free in fact. So please, let us help you. We may not always have the "cure" but we'll darn sure give it our best shot. Here's to your club's health – and yours as well.

Dave Martin

DMM Club Fitness Chair & Gov-Elect

svsec7111@gmail.com



DMM District Dispatch

Issue 17.18.05

February 2018

Correction!

Did anyone else catch the error?

Thanks to a thorough reading of last month's issue by a member of the Rushmore Noon club a correction needs to be pointed out.

It read: "...sold popcorn and hot chocolate during the Festival of Light Parade for a fundraiser, sponsored Big Brothers/Big Sisters Canvass to Pain..."

The event was **Canvas** [just one "s"] **to Paint** [one letter left out made quite a difference from "pain"!].

Keep looking for any and all errors. I might just include one here and there to see if you're actually reading each issue. But...that wasn't the case with the above error.

Curt Sandberg
dmmdispatch@midco.net

PDP Brochures Available

The trifold PDP (Professional Development Program) brochures are great to use as a marketing tool or as an easy way for current members to keep track of their PDP achievements.

Clubs may order the PDP brochures by sending an email to Jackie Moore at moorej@optimist.org. There is a maximum of 50 PDP brochures that may be requested each year.

Cheryl Bergstrom
ckbergstrom@hotmail.com
DMM Personal Development Chair

CCDHH Contest

The CCDHH District contest is fast approaching!!! I have had some inquiries from prospective entrants and am looking forward to a great contest. To help in planning, can you please let me know if your club will be sponsoring a contestant! Remember the submission deadline for the contestants entry is March 31st!!

Lori Cook
District CCDHH Chair
lrcookie@yahoo.com
cell: 651-261-4312



IMPORTANT CORRECTION!

A call to OI has revealed that Friend of Optimist memberships paid for via plastic, i.e. credit or debit cards, can **NOT** opt for automatic renewal! If that appears on Friend of Optimist applications you have in your possession, please cross off that option at the bottom of the form.

Good Rally Podcast

It all began at the MN State Fair when Rob Callan from Good Rally.org stopped by the Optimist booth to see what our organization is all about. He followed up by interviewing Past Governor Terry Gorman and visiting a regular meeting of the Glen Lake club where he spoke with Tony and Tom.

Click on the following link to listen to the 30 minute podcast:
<http://goodrally.org/2018/01/15/optimist-international/>

Thanks to Wayne Jeske for submitting this info.

Club News

(Continued from page 6)

tests, and is considering getting involved in a Solar Boat Regatta that will be held in May.

VERMILLION — is finalizing plans for the club Essay Contest and club Oratorical Contest to be ready for the Zone 7 Contest to be held in Sioux Falls on April 7th. Donations were made to Vermillion Youth Swim Team and 4-H Leadership team that responded with a thank you that read, in part, "Thank you for helping to support such a great program for the youth in Clay County. ...what a difference it [4-H] has made in their lives."

GRAND FORKS — Club President, GF County Sheriff, Bob Rost, was nominated by Safe Kids—Grand Forks for "America's Favorite Crossing Guard" as he wraps up his 13th consecutive year of service to youth in that role at Kelly Elementary School. It appears that Bob will finish in second place in the nationwide voting with over 9,100 votes. In the '80's Bob took this issue to the ND Legislature to make school crossing guards an option at all ND schools.



DMM 3rd QUARTER DISTRICT MEETING

Featuring "Oatmeal Martinis"

April 29-30, 2018

Optimist Member and Guest Registration Information

Best Western Ramkota/Watertown Event Center

1901 9th Ave SW Watertown, SD 57201

605-886-8011 (call Hotel Direct)

Rooms only \$94.99 per night +tax

(ask for DMM Optimist Room Block)

Reserve your Room by March 27, 2018

Registration fee includes:

Friday: Pizza Party

Saturday: Buffet Breakfast/Oatmeal Martinis and Lunch

_____ \$60 (US Funds) Early Bird District Meeting Registration
Registration & Payment
Postmarked by April 1, 2018

_____ \$70 (US Funds) District Meeting Registration
Registration & Payment
Postmarked after April 1, 2018

Individual fee:

_____ \$15.00 Pizza Party

_____ \$25.00 Lunch

_____ \$20.00 Breakfast

HOSTED BY THE OPTIMIST CLUB OF WATERTOWN, SOUTH DAKOTA

Make Checks Payable to: DMM

Mail Reservation Forms and Payment to:

Carmen Bakken

PO Box 1632

Watertown, South Dakota

57201

Questions? Please contact:

Carmen Bakken at 605-881-1348 cbakken@wat.midco.net

Registration Information (one Member or Guest per registration form, please)

Name: _____ Club Name: _____ Club Number: 35-_____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Dietary or Physical Needs: _____ Optimist Member or Guest? _____

Evening Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Current Club Position: _____

Current District or International Position: _____

This is my first Attendance at a DMM District Meeting.

Yes, I'm interested in attending the Dutch Treat Dinner Saturday evening (off-site, location to be determined).

Manitoba Optimist Junior Golf



Presenting Sponsors

Optimist Clubs Foundation of Winnipeg



Canadian Junior Golf Association



and the

Present the 21st Annual

Manitoba Optimist Junior Open

June 9 & 10, 2018

Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club

30 River Road
St. Andrews, Manitoba

Dakotas-Manitoba-Minnesota (DMM) official district qualifier for the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (OIJGC) in Florida, USA

Hosted by

The Optimist clubs of Manitoba

Registration Information

- Open to the first 120 paid entries
- Entry fee is \$110.00(add \$50 for CJGA Tournament)
- 2 Rounds of Golf and Lunch provided
- Driving Range Practice both days
- Long Ball and Closest to Pin Competition
- Handicap or average score required
- Entry deadline June 5th, 2018

Payment in full of \$110 or \$160 must accompany the entry form.

Online registration available on our website. Entry forms can also be downloaded from our website or register by phone calling Larters at St. Andrews Golf and Country Club Pro Shop. (204-334-2107)

<http://www.optimistjrgolf.org>

Supporting partners



Male and Female Age Eligibility

10 - 18 years - \$110.00 per Junior

Age Categories

Junior Boys (JB)

13 - Under

14 - 15

16 - 18

Junior Girls (JG)

12 - Under

13 - 14

15 - 18

Golfers who will not celebrate their 19th birthday on or before Aug 1st, 2018. All golfers must currently be enrolled in school or be a 2018 high school graduate.

Prizes to be awarded in all age categories.

1. Golf Equipment will be awarded in all defined age groups.
2. Trips to Florida to compete in the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship at the PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Gardens, Florida, USA.
Age groups 16-18 (JB) and 15-18(JG) categories only.
Valid Passport is required to receive trip.

CJGA Tournament Only: (Optional \$50.00 add-on)

1. Receive a dozen Taylor Made golf balls and Nike Golf Hat.
2. Qualifiers receive paid entries to CJGA Tournaments:
 - CJGA Mizuno National Golf Championship
 - CJGA PING Canadian Junior Match Play Championship