



# OPTI-NEWS

January 2012



## OPTIMIST CLUB OF PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

*Serving the Plainfield Community and its youth since 1954*

Affiliated with Optimist International and the Indiana South District

### Club Meetings

6:30pm, Sugar Grove  
Senior Living Center

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 664,  
Plainfield, IN 46168

### Club Web Site:

[www.optimistindiana.org/  
Clubs/Plainfield](http://www.optimistindiana.org/Clubs/Plainfield)

### Officers & Directors:

**President:** Dawn Wickham  
**Pres.-Elect:** Rusty Diemer  
**Vice-Pres.:** Bill Verhonik  
**Past-Pres.:** Pat Spray  
**Secretary:** Rick Shaw  
**Treasurer:** Mike Woodward  
**Director:** Rick Parker  
**Director:** Ken Mikeworth  
**Director:** Gayle Kline  
**Director:** Andy Tice  
**Director:** Mark Hagee  
**Director:** Brian Perry

### Administrative Positions:

**Fund Raising Administrator:**  
John Reel  
**Sports Programs Administrator:**  
Mike Woodward

### 2010-11 Major Programs:

**Baseball Co-Directors:**  
Dale Copeland & Travis Nichols  
**Soccer Co-Director's**  
Ken Mikeworth & Sue Elhabrush  
**Football Director:**  
Damon Slaton  
**Cheerleading Director:**  
Shelly Vernengo  
**Distinguished Young Women:**  
Tina Wiegel

### President's Message...

Happy New Year to EVERYONE!!!!

January is not only a wonderful start to the New Year, but it's also a busy time for the Optimist board as we prepare for the Spring and Summer seasons. Honestly there's no better way to spend the long winter days (and nights) than dreaming about the Spring and Summer weather. Soccer, Baseball, Cheerleading, and Distinguished Young Woman will soon be presenting their programs for the coming year, and we'll also be reviewing our contract with the town of Plainfield for the use of the Jan & Al Barker Sports Complex. We have Tri-Star Basketball, Oratorical and Essay contests on the calendar, and like always, we have weekly club meetings that continue to entertain and delight the crowds. (See the schedule below)

If you're looking for a resolution for the New Year, don't overlook the Optimist Creed. If you adopt just one line of the creed every month...you'll have them all incorporated into your life by October. This month: **PROMISE YOURSELF TO BE SO STRONG THAT NOTHING CAN DISTURB YOUR PEACE OF MIND.** I'm thinking about making that my mantra this month.

Keep warm and remember to stay positive. I hope to see you soon.

Optimistically YOURS,

Dawn Wickham

*"To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true."*

## 2011-12 Committee Chairs:

Tri-Star Soccer:	TBA
Tri-Star Football:	Mark Hagee
Tri-Star Basketball:	TBA
Junior Golf:	John Reel
Youth Appreciation Week:	Rusty Diemer
Respect For Law Week:	Jim Spencer
Respect For Law Camp:	Jerry Fishel
Firemen's Appreciation:	Wes Bennett
Partners In Education:	Bill Verhonik
Oratorical Contest:	Mike Underwood
Essay Contest:	Mike Woodward
Senior Scholarships:	Joan Effinger
Needy Family Christmas:	Farah Ahmed & Sue Elhabrush
Youth Clubs:	
Jr. Optimist Club (PCMS):	Denise Williams Joan Effinger
Octagon Club (HS):	Mike Woodward Carrie Farris
Publicity	Travis Lansberry
Finance	Mike Daugherty

## Club Calendar for the month of January

**Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>** – **Brad DuBois** from the Plainfield Chamber of Commerce joined us to talk about the comings and goings as he takes over as the Executive Director of the Plainfield Chamber of Commerce. Check out their website ([www.plainfieldchamber-in.com](http://www.plainfieldchamber-in.com)). By the way not only did you miss an interesting talk but the ribs were really tasty!

**Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>** – Did you know Plainfield is an Optimist Club in Zone 3 of the Indiana South District of Optimist International? Did you know our current Governor is Chuck Curry? Did you know that our District OI Foundation Representative is **Bob Thompson** from Avon Optimist Club? If you did not know all of these answers, come to the club meeting Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup>. Bob and Gov. Chuck will be our guests to tell you about the fun happenings at the district level and at the OI Foundation.

**Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>** – **Tri-Star Basketball**. Our **club contest is Saturday Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>** at the Plainfield Community Middle School from **Noon to 3:00**. Please stop by if you can help out. Then on this Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup>, come to the Club meeting and meet the award winners as we welcome them for dinner and a presentation.

**Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>** – **Jeff McKeon**, high school baseball coach will be our guest on this last Thursday in January. Let's have a great turnout, especially from all of you involved in our Little League Baseball Program, to meet and greet the coach.

**Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>** – Mark your calendars now and plan to attend when our very special guest speaker will be **Doug Esamann**, President of Duke Energy Indiana.

## Member Concens:

The Grandmother of Club President **Dawn Wickham** passed away on December 5. Club member and Past Club President **Ed Cohn** passed away unexpectedly at his home in Indianapolis on December 19. Ed had a long and distinguished career with the Indiana Department of Corrections including Superintendent at the Indiana Boys School from 1971-77. **Mary Eggers**, wife of former Club member (and Charter Member) **Sam Eggers**, passed away on January 9. Our prayers and concerns are with these families.

## January Birthdays:

Jan. 01 – Todd Justus  
Jan. 11 – Manuel Gentry  
Jan. 17 – Aneita Lemke  
Jan. 17 – Walt Lemke  
Jan. 17 – David Fowler

## Reminders:

The next board of directors meeting is Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the Chamber of Commerce building downtown. As always the meeting is opening to any club member as well.

Indiana South District Optimist Second Quarter Conference is in Terre Haute at the Holiday Inn on January 27<sup>th</sup> and Saturday January 28<sup>th</sup>. Speak to a board member if you need details and would like to attend.



## Recap for the Needy Family Christmas:

Sue Elhabrush & Farah Ahmed were able to help 4 families and a total of ten children. Mrs. White at Central Elementary assisted them with the list of names and gift suggestions. They were able to purchase all the desired toys and the batteries to go in them.

Hope you enjoy the Newsletter. If you have ideas or specific information you would like to see here, please contact Rick Shaw ([rick.shaw@amfam.com](mailto:rick.shaw@amfam.com)) or Andy Tice ([ticeandrew@yahoo.com](mailto:ticeandrew@yahoo.com)).