



# OPTI-NEWS



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## OPTIMIST CLUB OF PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

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*Serving the Plainfield Community and its youth since 1954*

Affiliated with Optimist International and the Indiana South District

Indiana South District Theme:

Give of Yourself For The Kids ”

March 2010

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### Club Meetings

6:30pm, Thursdays

Plainfield Elks Lodge ”

### 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: John Reel**

**Pres.-Elect: Pat Spray**

**Vice-Pres.: Dawn Wickham**

**Past-Pres.: Walter Lemke**

**Sec./Treas. Mike Woodward**

**Director: Dennis Middleton**

**Director: Rick Shaw**

**Director: Rusty Diemer**

**Director: Andy Tice**

**Director: Rob Mongell**

**Director: Brian Dilger**

### February Programs:

(All Club meetings at Plainfield Elks Lodge)

**Mar. 4** Oratorical Contest and Essay Winners.

**Mar. 11** –New Optimists Welcome (NOW) Night.

**Mar. 18** –Super Thursday ”

**David Best** as President Thomas Jefferson will present ‘A Conversation With Mr. Jefferson ’

**Mar. 21** Board Meeting.

**Mar. 25** Business meeting.

Proposed Club By-Laws change will be discussed and voted upon.

### President s Message ...

What a month this has been....it was so bad here Carolyn and I took a couple of weeks off and went to get warm in Florida.....only there two weeks and had to come back north go get warm as Florida was having the worst winter for cool air in the history of the state...we arrived February 13th and the temp was 39 with a 20 knot wind and chilly rain...when we left on the 28th at 6:00am the temp was 32 and it rained all the way to Atlanta...so much for getting away for some warmer weather. ::))

Both of our first two Thursdays programs/meetings were well attended and interesting....our "Super Thursday" meeting was a big hit as our own State Senator, Connie Lawson gave a great update on the political area of the state of Indiana. Senator Lawson truly represents all of us and has the best interest of Indiana at heart.

Have you been reading about our Junior Optimist Club members ?? How proud we are of those kids or yet "your adults" thanks to Joan and Dawn for working with these two groups as their club sponsors.

The first draft for baseball was held on Sunday and the teams are in place....good news....two additional teams this year. Just think....they are picking up their equipment this week and practice will begin as soon as the snow is off the ground. Both soccer and baseball are planning work days in a very few days. Hopefully the concessions stands will be restocked by the 10th of this month....lots of cleaning to be done at Lovell and Hummel fields....help needed...see John or Mike if you get a chance....for all of you basketball fans....we will excuse you while Plainfield is winning as well as Purdue and IU....

This week meeting will be both our oratorical and essay presentations. See description about the march meeting schedule...another great month of guest speakers and programs.

Speaking of great programs, I spent much of my time in Florida working with the St Petersburg Breakfast Optimist Club's "Challenger" program. This is a big month for Plainfield as we are gearing up for our own Challenger program that will begin when school is out and will be on Saturday afternoons. Please....please ....please plan on attending opening day and you will understand why I feel so strong about this program...indeed optimist will receive a warm "fuzzy" when you see these children playing a game they probably thought they would never have the opportunity to participate in. By the way...I could still use some help getting this program off the ground and running.

That's it for now....see you on Thursday....630 pm...Elks Club...come early and get a good seat.

It's great to be a member of one of the finest clubs in the world...

JR

***‘To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best. ’***

## 2009-10 Committee Chairs:

Baseball Co-Directors:

Dale Copeland & Travis Nichols  
Spring Soccer Director:

Brian Dilger & Paul Hrbek

Fall Soccer Director:

Brian Dilger & Paul Hrbek

Football Director:

Dennis Middleton

Cheerleading Director:

Shelly Vernengo

Tri-Star Soccer:

Sandi Layton

Tri-Star Football:

Mark Hagee

Tri-Star Basketball:

Rob Tejchma

Junior Golf:

Mike Woodward

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:

Andy Tice

Essay Contest:

Mike Woodward

Senior Scholarships:

Susan Cloe

Needy Family Christmas:

Greg & Jill Baker

Boys State Sponsorship:

Carl Smith

Youth Clubs:

Jr. Optimist Club (PCMS):

Dawn Wickham & Joan Effinger

Octagon Club (HS):

Mike Woodward & Carrie Farris

Plainfield Junior Miss Program:

Dawn Wickham

Publicity

Travis Lansberry

Finance

Mike Daugherty

## March Birthdays:

Mar. 01 Travis Lansberry  
Mar. 07 Ken Ring  
Mar. 10 Jeff Wuensch  
Mar. 13 Dawn Wickham  
Mar. 14 Barry Blackwell  
Mar. 15 Christian Kline  
Mar. 18 David Janisch  
Mar. 18 Rob Wallin  
Mar. 23 Brian Motter  
Mar. 25 Scott Gullely  
Mar. 25 John Wyatt  
Mar. 29 Ed Daum  
Mar. 30 Mark Smith

## March Meetings ...

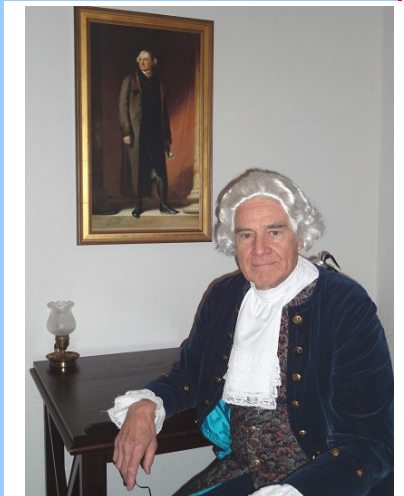
**Mar. 4** The Club s' annual **Oratorical Contest** will be held at this meeting. We are expecting at least three contestants. Each participant will deliver a speech on the topic **'Cyber Communication: Progress or Problem?'** Club winners advance to Regional and (hopefully) District competition. Each District winner will receive a \$2,500.00 scholarship (amount increased from previous years). The Club s' annual **Essay Contest** winners (top three) will also be present to receive their awards read their essays on the topic **'The Internet: Today s' Evolution or Tomorrow s' Menace?'** Club winners advance to District and (hopefully) International competition. Each District winner will receive a \$2,500.00 scholarship and the top three International winners will receive additional scholarships of up to \$6,000.00 (amounts increased from previous years).

**Mar. 11** NOW, New Optimists Wanted (or Welcome!) Program will be presented to potential Club members present. All Club members are encouraged to invite potential member guests (the Club will pay for their meal) to this meeting. We hope to have many of the new coaches and assistants involved in our Spring Soccer and Baseball programs, but it won t happen unless someone invites them, so PLEASE, **Just Ask !?** (A new membership recruitment program from Optimist International will give any Club member who sponsors 4 new members in the current Club year free dues for one year.) Club members who have joined the Club in the past five months are also encouraged to attend, as they will be formally inducted into the Club at this meeting.

**Mar. 18 –Super Thursday** ” Mr. David Best portraying Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States and author of the Declaration of

Independence, will perform a reenactment entitled **'A Conversation with Mr. Jefferson'** . Mr. Best is a 1950 graduate of Harvard University. He was a member of the adjunct faculty at Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis for 17 years before retiring in 1999 as an Associate Professor. He is a member of the Indiana Society of Professional Land Surveyors and is the editor of the *Hoosier Surveyor*, the society s' publication. He is a Past President of the Harvard Club of Indiana, a Past President of The Propylaeum Historic Foundation, Inc. in Indianapolis, and is the Immediate Past President of the **Breakfast**

**Optimist Club of Indianapolis**. As an avocation he presents one-man shows as Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and the Marquis de Lafayette. He is known locally and nationally for these presentations before groups ranging from kindergartners to attendees of national conventions. In this thirty minute portrayal of Thomas Jefferson at the age of 82, the setting is in Mr. Jefferson s' Monticello study. Mr. Jefferson will reminisce about pivotal events in his life and about his role in writing The Declaration of American Independence. Members of our youth Clubs, the **Octagon Club** and the **Junior Optimist Club**, have also been invited to attend this program. Club members are encouraged to bring their school aged kids as well. For planning purposes, please e-mail Mike Woodward by March 15 to let him know how many plan to attend and/or eat. Mike s' e-mail is [mjwoodwardiu@yahoo.com](mailto:mjwoodwardiu@yahoo.com).





## Welcome New Member ...

The Board of Directors accepted and approved the application of **Joan Tejchma**, sponsored by **Rob Tejchma**. Welcome aboard Joan!

## New Administrative Positions Filled ...

The Board of Directors has approved the appointment of **John Reel** and **Mike Woodward** to the two newly created administrative positions.

John will serve as **Fundraising Programs Administrator**. His responsibilities will include the following:

1. Coordinate, and provide administrative support for all Fund Raising Programs that raise funds to support Club Sports Programs, the Club's Junior Miss Program, and all other Youth Work and Community Service Programs or Projects.
2. Provide direct administrative oversight for all aspects of the Club's Concessions Fund Raising at all locations.
3. Coordinate the implementation of supplier contracts, special events activities, and other items administered by the Town of Plainfield, by working with the Sports Programs Administrator, and Town Park officials, as required.

Mike will serve as **Sports Programs Administrator** and Club Treasurer. His responsibilities will include the following:

1. Serve as Chair of Sports Programs Council, which shall be made up of the Directors (and Co-Directors) of the Little League Baseball, Spring Soccer, Fall Soccer, Youth Football and Cheerleading Programs operated by the Club.
2. Provide assistance and oversight of each Sports Program to assure compliance with each program's operational procedures and budget as approved by the Club's Board of Directors.
3. Coordinate the scheduling needs of each sports program and serve as the Club's contact person with the Town of Plainfield in reserving and scheduling athletic fields (regular season, league post-season, and invitational tournaments) and facilities. Administer all other aspects of the Club's use of facilities agreement with the Town.
4. Serve as Club Treasurer, keeping detailed records of all receipts and expenses (see detailed duties attached). Provide monthly financial statements to each Sports Program Director, the Junior Miss Program Director, the Fundraising Programs Administrator, and the Club's Board of Directors.

## Proposed By-Laws Change ...

The Board of Directors is proposing a change in Club By-laws to allow for the appointment of a Club Secretary/Treasurer or the appointment of a Club Secretary and a Club Treasurer. This proposal will be voted upon by Club members at the Club meeting on March 25.

