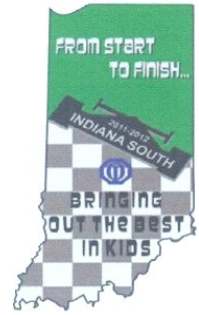




# OPTI-NEWS

October 2011



## 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, location as noted in announcements

### 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  
**Soccer Co-Director's**  
Ken Mikeworth & Sue Elhabrush  
**Football Director:**  
Damon Slaton  
**Cheerleading Director:**  
Shelly Vernengo  
**Plainfield Junior Miss Program:**  
Dawn Wickham & Tina Weigel

### Passing the Gavel....



Seen at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> installation banquet – incoming President Dawn Wickham and Immediate Past President Pat Spray. Good Luck Dawn and thank you Pat!

### President's Message...

Friends of Optimist:

To say that I am humbled and honored to be inducted to the office of President of the Plainfield Optimist Club is an understatement. When I think back on all of the great names and people that have had this responsibility before me, I am in awe of them and what they have accomplished for the great town and community of PLAINFIELD.

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

**2010-11 Committee Chairs:**

- Tri-Star Soccer: Sandy Layton
- Tri-Star Football: Mark Hagee
- Tri-Star Basketball: Rob Tejchma
- 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: Susan Cloe
- Needy Family Christmas: Farah Ahmed
- Youth Clubs: Dawn Wickham
- Jr. Optimist Club (PCMS): Joan Effinger
- Octagon Club (HS): Mike Woodward  
Carrie Farris
- Publicity: Travis Lansberry
- Finance: Mike Daugherty

Plainfield Optimist Club is more than just baseball, soccer, football, cheerleading, it’s respect for the law, and fire-fighters, it’s youth appreciation, it’s partners in education, and high school scholarships, and needy family Christmas. It is all these things TOGETHER and more. But most importantly, it’s about the **children and youth** of this great community.

I want to thank my board of directors and all of the program directors in advance of our year; we will make a presence in the community. People will see us as a “friend of youth” and hopefully will see our support of youth activities.

I really want to thank my husband for always supporting me. He once said that if I ever got paid for all of the time that I (or we) volunteered with the jr. miss, high school bands/choirs, swim team, musicals, plays, optimists...we would be rich. But I think we are rich in a way. We like to think we have touched the lives of just a few children over the years and hopefully we’ve made them smile just once or have made an impression on them.

One area that OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL is a proud supporter is the “**childhood cancer campaign**”. It is child/family support and research for children suffering from this awful disease that is cancer. I would love to see us start a program this year that would culminate in a fun-filled day of activities in JUNE 2012. I would especially like to see this program encompass the talents of the entire Plainfield Optimist family. (ie. the PHS octagon club, PCMS jr. optimist club, OMM—Optimist Miracle Movers, and our members and their families) If interested in knowing more, please e-mail me at [dawn@jwickhamconsulting.com](mailto:dawn@jwickhamconsulting.com).

**October Birthdays:**

- Oct. 03 – Sandy Layton
- Oct. 08 – Scott Blevins
- Oct. 10 – Parke Lucas
- Oct. 17 – Chris Kelly
- Oct. 17 – Curtis Diemer
- Oct. 18 – Damon Slaton
- Oct. 19 – Kirby Kirkpatrick
- Oct. 20 – Frank Davis
- Oct. 25 – Ed Cohn



*I know it’s a lot, but I believe if we dream big and shoot for the stars; then what lands in our lap will be pixie dust from heaven. (Sound OPTIMIST ENOUGH??)*

Optimistically YOURS,  
Dawn Wickham



## Club Meetings....where are we this week???

October brings a new challenge for the club as we are looking to locate a new full time home. Due to unforeseen circumstances we will no longer be meeting at the Elk's Club on Thursdays. We are looking for a new regular home and we will be trying out some alternatives this month. Check out this month's meeting schedule both for guest speakers and also for location! As always our meetings start at 6:30, regardless of location.

**Oct 6<sup>th</sup>** – This night we will have our club meeting at **The Coachman** restaurant. **Lynn Livingston** and **Dana House** will join us representing the Indiana Organ Procurement Organization. They have an exciting announcement to make that you won't want to miss.

**Oct 13<sup>th</sup>** – Our Junior Optimist (JOOI) club with advisor **Joan Effinger** will be our guests this evening. One the 13<sup>th</sup> we will make our first visit to **Sugar Grove Retirement Home** (Moon Road – south of the intersection with US40). They have a private dining room where we hold our meeting.

**Oct 20<sup>th</sup>** – **Mark Hagee** will be presenting our Tri-Star Football awards. This meeting will also be Football Coaches Appreciation night. Our meeting will be a Pizza party at the **InterUrban Building**.

**Oct 27<sup>th</sup>** – This night's meeting will be our second visit to the **Sugar Grove Retirement Home** for our meeting. Our guest for the evening is Plainfield resident, **Bob Walters**. He will share his recent experiences in raising money and awareness for providing bicycles to leaders in the Republic of Congo. You may have seen a recent story about Fondo d'Congo in The Hendricks County Flyer.

Sorry for the back and forth to different locations in October. This is our way to test out a few places in order to find a long term location for club meetings. So, give it a try and let us know which site works for you!

## 2010-11 Awards Night & Installation of Officers for 2011-12 ...

The Plainfield Optimist Club celebrated the accomplishments of the past year and presented annual awards for the dedicated service of key members at the annual Awards and Installation of Officers Night on September 22. The following awards were presented by 2009-10 Club President **Pat Spray**:

- Board of Directors Gifts to each member of the 2010-11 Board of Directors.
- Sports Programs Directors Gifts to **Dale Copeland, Ken Mikeworth, Sue Elhabrush, Damon Slaton, & Shelly Vernengo**.
- Chairman Gifts to each Committee Chair
- Rookie of the Year Award to **Sue Elhabrush**.
- Spouse of the Year Award to **Mike Underwood**.
- Community Involvement Award to **Rick Shaw**, and
- Optimist of the Year Award to **Andy Tice**.

Past President Spray also thanked everyone who had supported him during the year. Congratulations to all award winners!

2011-12 Zone 3 Lt. Governor (and Club Member) Mike **Underwood** formally installed the Club Officers for 2011-12. Incoming President **Dawn Wickham** outlined her goals for the coming year and targeted Optimist International's Childhood Cancer Campaign as new Club project. **Kathy Underwood** won the annual Opti-Pot drawing for \$100.00.

## Reminders:

The board of directors will meet Sunday October 16 at 6:30pm in the Chamber of Commerce building downtown. As always the meeting is opening to any club member as well.

Dues Notice: Club dues statements for the period October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 have been mailed. Please return your payment ASAP. The Club must pay dues in advance to Optimist International and the Indiana South District for all members on the Club roster as of September 30.

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)).