



SWIS Newsletter 2010 - 2011



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Greetings Fellow Optimistic Individuals!

I am wishing everyone the best of fortune as they progress into the summer with fundraisers and Community Optimist events. **PLEASE ATTEND OUR AWESOME CONVENTION AND TRAINING IN MILWAUKEE AUGUST 5 & 6, SEE DETAILS BELOW! Book your room ASAP. See my "Check it out" ideas and incentives at the end of this message!**

Our May Wisconsin Dells conference was a huge success due to all the hard work of all of our SWIS Team that put all our activities together and the local clubs that attended as well as the many clubs that sponsored their Oratorical contest winners in the Dells.

Our District Junior Golf Tourney had to be canceled on June 20th due to rain, but I so appreciate the efforts of Tom Carls my husband and Todd Paulus. They increased the registration and had an outstanding event planned. The kids did not want to leave the course.

I have so much to be thankful for as your Governor and I appreciate all your efforts for the children of Southern Wisconsin. I attended the International Convention, July 3-5, with our SWIS delegation which included Governor Elect, Bonnie Spindler. The promotion and booth for our upcoming Milwaukee International Convention in 2012 was very successful and we worked cooperatively with the WINUM District to put our best foot forward. OI President, Danny Rodgers asked me to pledge to finish strong and I am going to do just that, with your help. See my "check it out" items below.

It Is SWIS Power Up Convention Time!

SWIS District Convention, Aug. 5 & 6, 2011, Crown Plaza Hotel Milwaukee Airport
(registration is once again available on our website www.swisdistrict.org)

Workshops, Networking, Program Information, International Guest, President Elect Training, Fellowship and much more. **Plan to attend. Registration is \$39.00, including Breakfast and Lunch. Saturday, Aug. 6, 8a.m. to 3:00p.m.**

I sincerely invite you to be a part of our District convention in August 5 & 6 in Milwaukee. Come on Friday during the day and visit the State Fair, or join us at Jersey Boys (tickets still available-see below). Even if you don't attend the show take our shuttle downtown for a reception with the Menomonee Falls Optimist Club and see the sights downtown. Our plan of activities is excellent and our International Representative, Barb Scirto, will be there to assist. Training of incoming officers and directors will also take place.

Crown Plaza Hotel, Milwaukee Airport Room Rate, \$89.00, (plus 15.1% Room tax). Book under "Optimist Convention", check in 3p.m. check out 11a.m. Room rate deadline, July 25th. Call direct at 414-764-5300

Friday Night, Aug. 5 - casual reception at 4:30p.m. in hotel lobby. Join us on the shuttle to Trinity Downtown Milwaukee for a pre-show reception. Those not attending the Jersey Boys show can tour downtown a bit and ride the shuttle back to the hotel. Join many of us for the show, Tickets are still available for the Jersey Boys Show Friday Night! Email JJ Selland, mrijiviking@tds.net NOTE: Executive Committee Meeting at 3:00p.m. Plan a trip to the State Fair while in the area!

Email or call me if you have questions: coryann.stmc@gmail.com, 262-914-1020

Here are some Governor ideas and incentive to make note of and check out!

1. CHECK THIS OUT!! Come to the Convention and bring a newly elected officer or Board members and your club will qualify for a special "Power Up" commemorative patch!! Email me if you need more details.
2. CHECK THIS OUT!!!! Join a friend of Optimist in your club by July 31st and receive special recognition at our luncheon and a plaque for your New "Friend" . Name a Friend of Optimist sponsored by your club! Recognize a school, organization, business or individual with this honor, they will get a plaque. (just email or call Governor Cory by July 31st, and send the application to OI, coryann.stmc@gmail.com 262-914-1020.
3. CHECK THIS OUT!!! Make a \$150.00 minimum donation (personally or from your club) to the 2012 Milwaukee Optimist International Convention, and get a special sponsor recognition gift. Checks payable to: 2012 Optimist International Convention Fund. Bring the check to the convention to be recognized. Otherwise send it to Governor CoryAnn, 3922 S. Lake Drive, St. Francis, WI 53235.
4. Provide me with the emails of any UW-Milwaukee or Marquette students or recent former students living in Milwaukee to get some networking started for our Optimist efforts in the Milwaukee area. I so appreciate your thoughts of relatives friends etc. I will provide you with a special Governor's Power up commemorative service patch for your help with this networking.

Optimistically,
CoryAnn St. Marie-Carls
SWIS Governor, 2010-11

The International Optimist Convention in 2012 will be in MILWAUKEE.

Wisconsin has not had the OI Convention since 1924.

It is a great honor to Welcome Optimists from all over the USA, Canada, Jamaican Islands & the other Countries where Optimists are helping to serve the Youth in their communities.

Please put July 12, 13, 14 (2012) on your calendar now and plan to attend and welcome the other Optimist guests to our Great State of Wisconsin! It s a wonderful opportunity to see the BIG PICTURE of what Optimists do for our Youth---our Future Leaders in our communities!

ALSO - Please try to put into your budget for 2012 a donation for this convention. The committee was thinking \$5 per member per club would be extremely helpful & budget-able! ;-) We need to pay the expenses for the YOUTH who will attend. We need chaperones, t-shirts, transportation to events planned for them, crafts, entry fees for the places our Youth committee will visit&and of course, don t forget the FOOD, meals, and treats the kids will enjoy along the way! The WINUM and SWIS Districts will both participate in this OI Convention.

We need to decorate the Appreciation Luncheon tables with favors (and flavors from WI) so that will add some additional cost for us to make it extra special, plus about 50 centerpieces! We hope to have a WELCOME TO WISCONSIN Tailgate party the night before the Convention begins, so we need to have some funds for brats, deep fried cheese curds, and beverage(s), of course!;-)

Thank you for being OPTIMISTS!

Yours truly in Optimism,

Joanne Ganske, Host Committee Chairperson (SWIS District) 608-576-4433 (cell)
Laurel Schirmer, Assistant-Chairperson (WINUM District)

SWIS Planning 2011-2012

“Optimists, Bringing Out the Best in Kids” is the current logo for International President 10-11, Mark Shriver. The International President Elect, Jack Creswell continues with the same logo and added “100% and then some”. The Milwaukee International Convention will be held in July 2012 with a logo of “Meet Milwaukee”.

In the SWIS – Southern Wisconsin District, as optimists we not only “Bring Out the Best in Kids” we also are “Moving Forward with Kids”, which is the 11-12 logo. The kids we support are energetic, active, creative, imaginative, and curious; these are our future leaders. As SWIS leaders, we need to “Move Forward” with the kids we serve and continue the optimist legacy.

The SWIS Mission is to “achieve the vision of the District through a dedicated network of members committed to service of its members, youth, and communities”. We can achieve that vision by “Moving Forward” together as a SWIS 11-12 Team through: 1) Personal Growth/Training; 2) Communication; 3) Involvement through planned programs; and 4) Growth in membership.

Governor Cory has initiated some great programs this year as part of her vision of “Unlimited Possibilities – Power Up for Youth” which will continue in order to create even more enthusiasm for Optimism. We need to finish the current year strong and use that success to propel ourselves and our clubs as we “Move Forward with Kids” in the future. The following has been planned.

SWIS District 11-12 Planned Conferences:

✓	October 21-22, 2011	SWIS 1 st Quarter	Glacier Conference Baraboo
✓	February 10-11, 2012	SWIS 2 nd Quarter	Hilton Gardens Inn, Middleton
✓	May 11-12, 2012	SWIS 3 rd Quarter	Wilderness, WI Dells
✓	August 24-25, 2012	SWIS 4 th Quarter	Sheraton, Madison (<i>Date update</i>)

Lt. Governor's Elected at May 7th, 2011 Conference, will be pre-trained in July 2011.

✓	Amy Soleimani-Mafi	Mukwonago Club	Zone 1
✓	Jo'El Pearlman	Kenosha Club	Zone 2
✓	Kevin Austin	Delavan-Darien Club	Zone 3
✓	Lynn Miller	Stoughton Club	Zone 4
✓	Maureen Crombie	Monona Grove Club	Zone 5
✓	Gary Engelke	Platteville Club	Zone 6
✓	John Scherer	Sauk Trails –Madison	Zone 7
✓	Fred Dorn	Waukegan Club	Zone 8

SWIS Eight Zones Approved at February 2011 Conference: This rezoning was done to enhance communication between SWIS District Officers and SWIS Clubs, taking into account locations, number of optimists, club sponsorships, and other considerations. Following are the clubs in the eight 2011-2012 SWIS Zones.

✓	Zone 1:	Milwaukee Metro, Mequon/Th, Milwaukee, Menomonee Falls, Waukesha, West Bend, Mukwonago.
✓	Zone 2:	Burlington, Racine Friday, Racine, Racine Tuesday, Kenosha.
✓	Zone 3:	Beloit Breakfast, Janesville Wed., Janesville Breakfast, Milton, Delavan/Darien, Uw-Whitewater (students), Janesville Noon, UW Whitewater/Community.
✓	Zone 4:	Jefferson, Cambridge, Ft. Atkinson, Oregon, Stoughton, Lake Mills, Sun Prairie.
✓	Zone 5:	Madison Breakfast, East Madison/Monona, Madison Downtown, Madison NE, McFarland, Cottage Grove, Monona Grove.
✓	Zone 6:	Platteville, LaCrosse Breakfast, Platteville Area, Fennimore, Darlington, Brodhead, Dodgeville, Monroe, Monroe Tuesday.
✓	Zone 7:	Cross Plains, Sauk Trails – Madison, Middleton, Mt. Horeb, Verona, West Madison, Mazo/Wisconsin Heights, Fitchburg.
✓	Zone 8:	Baraboo, Beaver Dam, Lodi, Portage, Sauk Prairie, Waukegan.

SWIS 11-12 Chairs, Co-Chairs, Chairmentors: To provide more support and cross training, there are many co-chairs as well as past-governor's (chairmentors) who will be available. Many optimists have volunteered to be a part of the SWIS 11-12 Team in various positions: **Thanks so much to ALL.** If you are also interested in a position on the SWIS District Team, please contact Governor Elect Bonnie Spindler.

Team Training SWIS Club Officers / Chairs / Lt. Governor's will be held **August 6th, 2011** at the Convention in Milwaukee. New/Continuing Club President/Sec/Treas, then ENTIRE Team 11-12 training continued by adding Chairs/Lt. Gov's, Executives. OI Rep, Barb Scirto will be assisting in training and installation of Executive Team.

Thanks so much for the honor of being your future Governor for the 11-12 year. With your help we will have a GREAT YEAR and “Move FORWARD With Kids”. I'm here to serve you, so please call or e-mail with questions or concerns.

Bonnie Spindler, Governor Elect 10-11, bspindler@charter.net 608-833-7244 (H) 608-338-7244 (cell).

Dear SWIS District Optimist Clubs,

I recently looked over the donations that have been collected to date for the Foundation, and I noticed that **we are considerably behind previous years** at this point in our Optimist year.

At the beginning of each Optimist year, I have asked all SWIS District clubs to send the name of their club Foundation Representative to me. This person's responsibility is to work with the club's Board of Directors in putting together the club's donation to the Foundation. This person also works with the Club President at the club meetings to encourage the members to donate to the OI Foundation.

Donations to the Foundation are extremely important, because the Foundation releases a tremendous amount of funds back to the Districts and Clubs in the form of Scholarships and materials that clubs need on an ongoing basis. At the International Convention of Optimist International which was held in Baltimore on the first weekend of July, just over a week ago, our Foundation training session was geared toward the need of funding for the many benefits that the Foundation does in helping Optimist International remain a tremendous asset to the health of Optimist clubs across the Globe. If it wasn't for the Foundation donations that are received every year, our Optimist dues might be a whole lot higher on an annual basis. So please keep this in mind when you decide to donate to the Foundation or not.

One of the easiest ways to donate is to have every member of a club donate to the *Dime A Day* club. If every club in the SWIS District did this, our District would be able to donate \$73,000.00 to the Foundation with just this one action. It is so easy to get your club involved. Just go to the www.swisdistrict.org website, and click on the dime on the right side of the home page, and the application for the Dime A Day will open up and you can print it out. Just have a club check sent to me with all the applications filled out with your club number on the application, and the name and address of all your club members and I will submit the applications for you. Make sure that you send all donations to me so the SWIS District gets the credit.

Please consider becoming involved with Foundation donations this year. The kids all over the world will benefit from your donations. If other donations are sent to me for the Foundation, make sure that you write in "Unrestricted Funds" in the memo section.

Fred Dorn, Foundation Representative, SWIS District

The photo is from 1961. Styles change but our dedication to our children doesn't!



Sauk Prairie Optimists – 50 and Going Strong!

The Sauk Prairie Optimist club is celebrating 50 years of serving the community this year. We usually have 20 or more members attending our breakfast meetings, where we have a variety of interesting speakers. The club has been celebrating gifting our community all year long. Still growing, we are cruising into the next 50 years and, always optimistic, working toward making dreams come true for our community and our youth.

Attention CLUB OFFICERS! Be sure to respond to the ORATORICAL SURVEY IN YOUR EMAIL! We need your opinion on the age for participants. Surveys are due by AUGUST 2, please.

2011 FOOTBALL SWEEPSTAKES UPDATE

The 2011 Football Sweepstakes Tickets have been in the possession of all the selling clubs for several weeks now. I want to remind all clubs that are in possession of tickets that the time to begin selling those tickets is now. The fall football season will be upon us before we realize it.

At this time, several clubs have sent stubs and money to us which is the proper thing to do as the season progresses. I really appreciate the timely delivery of tickets and money as the season goes along, thereby saving loads of time in the final month before the start of the College Football season which begins Conference play on October 8th this year. This means that all ticket stubs and money must be in my office by October 1, 2011 in order to qualify for this year's sweepstakes.

I want to remind everyone that my address will be changing at the end of July to: 501 N. Madison Street in Waunakee. Zip code is 53597. It would help many clubs close to Madison to get their stubs and money to me before I move my office to Waunakee. After that time, stubs and money can be dropped off at the Damon home at 7201 Nightingale Lane in Middleton, which is one block North of Kromrey School. Clubs outside of the Madison area can mail \$ and stubs to me at my new address above.

Please keep in mind that the reason for selling these tickets is to help the little ones in our communities. Due to the uncertainty of the NFL games, we felt it necessary to work the College games this year. If the NFL is back in business next year, we will definitely go back to NFL Sweepstakes.

Keep in mind that due to the shortened season this year, if most of the tickets out there are sold, the selling clubs can expect to receive a much greater check for the amount of tickets sold. We must remember that the reason for selling these tickets is the smiles that we can see on the faces of the youngsters in our communities, not the fact that someone will win if they are lucky. Let's make the checkbook in our clubs swell by the selling of tickets. Let our buyers know that they are helping many charities in Southern Wisconsin. Let's go all out and see if we can hit a new record in ticket sales this year.

Thanks to all of you for your hard work in the past, and looking forward to another banner year in ticket sales.

Optimistically,
Fred Dorn. Sweepstakes Chair

SWIS Skateboarding is going strong!

There are still opportunities to compete, if you have kids that want a chance to show their skill! Check out



doptimist.wordpress.com/sk8boa

[rd-competition-series/](#)

for dates and times of the competitions and more information on this fabulous opportunity to share the skating scene with some great kids.



Mc Farland Club shares alarming news

Drug Use in Dane County - an epidemic that could touch you!

Officer Mike Brennan, with the Madison Police Department's Gang and Narcotics Task Force, spoke on drug use in Dane County at the McFarland Club's April 26th meeting. Officer Brennan is one of a few uniformed officers in the task force (most of the officers are undercover) and he executes a lot of search warrants at suspected drug dealers' residences.

He stated that Dane County is experiencing a huge epidemic of heroin and prescription drug use. The heroin purity is around 80 to 90 percent, up from 30 to 40 percent of 40 years ago. The high heroin purity and the inability for a user to know the exact purity is resulting in lots of overdoses and deaths. Last year in Dane County there were 127 heroin overdoses and 20 deaths. The drug rehabilitation center Tellurian reports that 60 percent of their residents are there for heroin abuse.

Officer Brennan emphasized that the *average heroin user* is not the skid row bum of the past, but is most often a *white, middle class teenager who lives in the suburbs!* These kids often start on prescription pain killers, like oxycodone and hydrocodone, which they may have stolen from their parents or overused for a sports injury. He urges all parents to be aware of changes in their children's behavior and to dispose of all unused prescription medicines by taking them to a med-drop program!

Also, if you carry medications with you, be sure they are secured at all times. Many times these items can be picked out of your purse, backpack or coat pocket when you are distracted or separated from your belongings. Don't unwittingly help the users!

