



SWIS District Newsletter 2019 – 2020



SWIS District Newsletter Contributors

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From My Home to Yours

By: Amanda Szymkowski



Hey Optimists! I want to start by saying how much I love being your SWIS District Newsletter Editor. One of my favorite parts of the “job” is filling these pages with your youth activities, community projects and club fundraisers. You all use your time, talents and funds to really make an impact in your communities, and I love being able to share your stories with fellow optimists. One of my least favorite parts, however, is sending pesky reminder emails to our District leaders to send in articles. For this edition, sending that email was difficult for a very different reason: I knew that most of your beloved events would be canceled. Selfishly, I couldn’t bear to ask for articles on the events you’ve been working so hard to plan but could not host.

Please don’t get me wrong - I understand the severity of this crisis. I work at the Medical College of Wisconsin as an Administrative Assistant in Geriatrics. As I write this letter, my providers are juggling patients at Froedtert, the VA and community nursing homes. They are adhering to daily policy and protocol changes. They are working overtime to make sure they are doing what is best for their patients. And really, things are not easy for anyone. Parents are expected to homeschool their children while still working their stressful jobs. People are still expected to pay their bills even if they are on unpaid leave. People still have to put food on the table even if they had to close their small local business. And grocery store employees, mail carriers, sanitation workers, etc continue to go to work despite the risks. I say these things not to bring you down; but to remind you that in these times of uncertainty and crisis, we have something very essential: Gratitude.

As Mr. Fred Rogers has been quoted as saying, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.’” Our healthcare workers, no matter what their discipline is (Nurse, Occupational Therapist, Social Worker, Nurse Practitioner, Physician, etc), are all stepping in wherever needed. Restaurants announced they would provide free meals for students, and educational websites posted interactive content only a day or two after schools announced that they were closed. People are buying materials and sewing medical masks. Landlords are waiving or reducing rent rates. Patrons are adding large tips to their carry-out and delivery receipts. So when everything feels overwhelming, I look for the helpers. I cling to these stories like a security blanket.

So when it came to this Spring newsletter, I decided to “reImagine” my pesky reminder email to our District leaders and request newsletter submissions such as:

- **Spotlight** an optimist/community member
- **Write** a poem or short creative story
- **Draw** a cartoon/comic strip
- **Tell** a random acts of kindness story that you saw in your community
- **Photograph** nature or your pet

Because what better time for our members to harness their talents and creativity than a mandatory stay-at-home declaration? The responses that I received will be featured throughout this newsletter edition. For those of you who missed the opportunity this time around, feel free to contribute for the next edition. Your creativity will make all of us happy when the skies are gray.



Conversations with Christine: 3rd Quarter Chaos

Christine Dieckhoff

SWIS District Governor 2019-2020

Optimists, be not dismayed, for there are a lot of good things that have come from this district in the first half of my governorship. Before we get into the goals that I set for the district, let me say one word about the COVID-19 virus: Bummer! OK, let's go on...

- ❖ My first goal was to change the conferences from a primarily speaker-oriented format to a participant-engaging format, and we are really on track by adding excitement, fun, discussions and challenges. Attendee feedback has confirmed this. After the first two conferences, I received so many comments stating how good it is to interact and have fun! We also spent time talking with fellow optimists. We've shared ideas on gaining and maintaining members, and hosting club projects, activities, oratorical contests, and fundraisers. We also have seen an increase in "first-timer" attendance and club representation.
- ❖ My second goal was to increase membership. I thought that the fun at our conferences would create a wave of enthusiasm through our members and inspire more people to join. Unfortunately, our clubs have lost a lot of members without adding new members. We are now at our all time low of net minus 51. COVID-19 restrictions will not help, since our events are canceled for the foreseeable future. But as we try to reconnect with friends and family through phone calls and video chats, let's be sure to remind them and ourselves of the benefits of optimism. Then, when we can meet again, we can invite them to our meetings and club events.
- ❖ My third goal was to offer a new project incentive. We are offering \$100 to the club that creates the best new project that serves our youth. With the generosity of my executive team, the incentive rose to \$500! Currently, we have four clubs entered to win already. Just to review: The challenge states that this must be a new project for your club. Please submit a summary of your project to me at christidee@litewire.net. The deadline to submit is July 31st, but your project can occur afterwards. The \$500 will be awarded at the August Convention! If there is a tie, the top two clubs will split the money. I have secured the other governors of the Great Plains Region, along with Vice President Lyle Merriam, to judge the projects as they will be totally impartial.
- ❖ My fourth and final goal was to increase SWIS District contributions to the Optimist International Foundation. I hoped to achieve this by promoting the great things that the Foundation does for our clubs and youth. My husband Wayne is our District Foundation Representative. He has been doing a stellar job of promoting the Foundation and encouraging participation at club meetings and District conferences. Thus far, our SWIS District has raised \$2,926.00!

We will remain optimistic, through thick and thin (we're in thin right now), and we will remember our Optimist Creed with the best tenet of all: "Promise yourself to be so strong, that NOTHING can disturb your peace of mind!"

Stay Happy and Healthy
In Optimism,
Governor Christine

Maxine's Message

Maxine Lane: Governor-Elect 2019-2020



Within a few months, I will be sworn in as the SWIS District Governor, accepting the prestigious position effective October 1, 2020. Although extremely excited, I believe 50% is nervous excitement and the other 50% is excitement to take the District to new levels of serving youth. The reality is, I alone am not able to take the District to these new levels. I need and will be asking for your help. I, as have those before me serving in the position of SWIS District Governor; have made the District what it is today through the help and dedication of all members. Bringing our goal of serving more youth than we did the day before, the month before the years before is every member's responsibility. I am hopeful you will join me and invite family and friends to join you at a meeting, NOW luncheon, social gathering, etc. giving them the opportunity to know and experience what it means to be an Optimist. It makes us feel good! Help others experience the same good feeling!

Please see page 16 for Maxine's untitled fable.

Time to "Just Ask"

Joanne Ganske: Growth Team, Great Plains Region, Optimist International



For pure growth at the Club level...which is what our Optimist International President Adrian has been asking us to do from the start, please strengthen your Club by asking your current members to make your club even more attractive to the public as a community service club, and 'just ask' new members to join and 'grow' your club to serve more children! Each Optimist serves 35 children and if your club can add just 5 new members (without dropping any), your community and club will be able to serve 175 more youth. If you delete one, please add two!!

Our kids need your club! They Need YOU!!
New Members, New ideas, New Hands to Help to Serve More Kids.
Promise Yourself.....AND serve our children even more!

Optimistically yours,
Joanne Ganske

This is a Time for Optimists to Shine

Adrian Elcock

Optimist International President 2019-2020

<https://optimistclubs.wordpress.com/2020/03/23/this-is-a-time-for-optimists-to-shine/>

Optimist
International



[Adrian's April Message](#), starts with: “There is a Barbadian saying that goes “These days are funny nights”! I am not sure if the origin is Barbadian, but it is something that I grew up hearing. It is a saying that we use when things are so askew that we do not know if it is day or night. That’s how I felt over the last three weeks while leading this organization in the environment of unprecedented changes to our global landscape because of the novel coronavirus- COVID19.”

President Adrian goes on to say: “It is Optimism that requires me to implore you to remove the veil of darkness and replace it with an armor of light. To see opportunity when others see threats. To reimagine our wonderful organization and prepare you to find new ways to carry out the work we have been called upon to do. We are not canceling Optimism. We are canceling some events to keep our Optimist Family safe. Optimism cannot be defeated. We are iMaging new ways to bring you imaginative and exciting programs during this time.”

“We are Optimists! Remain active in your communities. This is a time for Optimists to shine. It’s a time to re-iMagine how we serve our communities and those who reside in them. We might have to cancel our gatherings, but we do not have to put a hold on our good deeds. It’s time to put our minds, hearts and souls together and find ways to bring optimism and service to our neighbors.”

Yours in Optimism,

Adrian M. Elcock, President, Optimist International

A Brief Report on Cancelations

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the cancelation of the SWIS District events and Optimist International events listed below. Please know that we do not make these decisions lightly, but we regard the health and safety of our optimist members, youth contestants and all attendees as our top priority. We appreciate all the time and effort that you and your club members have put into your local contests. You all exemplify optimism and bringing out the best in youth, your community and each other! Stay safe – Stay healthy!

District Tri-Star Basketball Competition

April 18, 2020 - canceled
Mukwonago High School

3rd Quarter Conference

May 9, 2020 - canceled
Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

District Oratorical Competition

May 9, 2020 - canceled
Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells

District Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

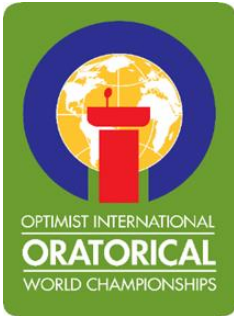
April 18, 2020 - canceled

2020 Optimist International Convention

June 28 – July 1, 2020 - canceled
Chicagoland, Illinois

2020 Optimist International Junior Golf Competition

July 2020 – canceled
Miami, FL



2020-2021 Governor-Elect Announcement

Jim Kondrasuk, Past Governor

On behalf of the SWIS District Candidate Qualifications Committee, I am very happy to announce that we have a candidate for Governor-Elect for the 2020-2021 Optimist Year! John Fons is a current Lt. Governor and has served as President of the Sauk Trails Optimist Club in Madison. For the 2018-2019 Optimist year, he led the Sauk Trails Club to Distinguished Club status. He attended the Optimist International Convention in Louisville, KY. He has met all the criteria to run for the office of Governor-Elect and subsequent Governor of the SWIS District.

If there is anyone who wishes to submit their name for consideration as Governor-Elect, please submit your name, a brief resume of your Optimist service, a letter of support from your club, and a letter of understanding from your employer (if employed). Please send these items to jwkswis@gmail.com by **April 15th**.



FUND CRAZR Ticket Pick-up and Delivery

Fred Dorn: Chair, SWIS District FUND CRAZR

Each year, I ask that one representative from each club comes to the 3rd Quarter SWIS District Conference to pick up the stack of FUND CRAZR tickets for your club members to sell. Due to the cancelation of this conference, I ask that you select one of the two alternative methods below.

❖ **Pick-up:** If someone from your club can come to Waunakee to pick-up your allotment of tickets, that would be ideal. My home address, phone number and email are listed below. Please call ahead to schedule a time.

❖ **Delivery:** If you'd prefer that I ship your allotment of tickets, please let me know as soon as possible and include the preferred delivery address. Note: There will **not** be a charge to cover the shipping and handling cost. This fee has been taken care of, without cost to the club or to the Sweepstakes.

Please note: The amount of tickets that I have packaged for each club are the numbers requested last year. I had asked that any changes to this amount should have been sent to me by April 1st. Please reach out at anytime if you need more tickets. The pick-up/delivery processes will be same for additional batches of tickets.

Thank you all in advance! I am looking forward to another banner year in FUND CRAZR ticket sales!

Fred and Maggie Dorn

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SWIS District 2nd Quarter Conference

Date: 2/22/20 Location: Brodhead, WI

View additional [conference highlights](#) here.

Optimist International Foundation Update

SWIS District OI Foundation Rep: Wayne Dieckhoff

We must all be optimists if we can live through the events of the last couple of weeks. Even with all the closings, we still have to take care of business. As your District Representative for the Optimist International (OI) Foundation, I will continue to urge all clubs and members to support the foundation through yearly donations, such as dime-a-day pledges, presidents club, individual donations and many more ways.

I wanted to share a few notes from our 2nd Quarter Conference. We raised \$677.00 from the basket and 50/50 raffles, and we raised \$893.50 from dime-a-day commitments and other donations. This totals to a \$1,520.50 OI Foundation donation. Thanks to all of you who participated.

I hope to be in contact with as many of you as possible in the future. If you have any suggestions or questions, please contact me.



In Optimism,

Wayne Dieckhoff
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Happy Dollars

John Fons, Club President, Sauk Trails Optimist Club

We in the Sauk Trails Optimist Club play a game each and every Wednesday that we meet. However, we aren't meeting each and every Wednesday these days and don't know when those each and every days may resume.

The game is called Happy Dollars. We gladly give a dollar for whatever makes us happy. The dollars flow from glad news about family, friends, businesses, hobbies, you name it. But if you name it, you owe a dollar. The money goes to our Sauk Trails Youth Foundation which in turn funds our student scholarships and grants to deserving non-profits in the community.

Without our weekly meetings, we have discovered that Happy Dollars works great remotely too. Our entire membership is emailing one another simultaneously by hitting 'Reply All' on the tool bar of our computers and pledging our dollars. I'm keeping track and eventually that money will be remitted to our Youth Foundation.

Most Happy Dollar contributions have ranged from \$5 to \$20; but one member offered to donate \$100 if the club collected \$100. We started the process on Wednesday, March 18th, when we would have normally met. In this period, we have collected \$203.00. That's not only money, that's evidence of continued Happiness and Optimism here at the Sauk Trails Optimist Club in Madison.

Paying it Forward

Howard Crofoot, SWIS District Treasurer

ISADDEX sends the SWIS District a quarterly invoice to pay for web hosting and updates. The most recent invoice was received with a \$0.00 balance for the months of April, May and June rather than \$299.



The invoice names a “COVID-19 assistance credit” and the description specifies:

“While we can’t make this offer to all, we are proud to provide you with the following assistance:

- Waiving all charges for site updates which are directly related to the COVID-19 outbreak
- Waiving your monthly datacenter/hosting fees for the billing period”

On behalf of the SWIS District, I want to express my gratitude for this financial relief. ISADDEX is living our optimist missions in bringing out the best in themselves and others.

The invoice description concludes with: “We have faith in knowing that by working together, we can succeed together.” I couldn’t agree more.

Backpack Buddies

George E. Breadon, MD, Monroe Morning Optimist Club

On behalf of the Monroe Morning Optimist Club Board of Directors, President Mr. Tom Wentworth announced that the club would be donating \$1,000 to the Monroe School District Backpack Buddies; an organization that provides in-need students with food, hygiene products, and much more. Since some students rely on school meals for their daily nutrition, Backpack Buddies help bridge the gap for when youth are not in school; i.e. weekends, spring break, etc.

Due to schools closing to try to prevent the spread of COVID-19, students are at risk of going without food and other necessary items. Organizations such as Backpack Buddies are now more crucial than ever. For the last 40 years, the community has purchased Cheese curds from our annual fundraiser. To turn around and give some of those earnings back to those in the community who need it the most, is a huge honor. We are grateful for Backpack Buddies for bringing out the best in youth, the community and each other.



“Give Every Living Creature you Meet a Smile”

CoryAnn St.Marie-Carls, Optimist Club of Milwaukee

The Optimist Club of Milwaukee (OCM) would like to thank The Dentists South Shore and Crest for their toothpaste and toothbrush donations. OCM included these donation in gift bags for the youth who attended the Kosciuszko Community Center Breakfast with Santa in December. They really put “smiles” on their faces.



Photo credits (left): Drs Michael Golovin, DMD, Christian Harteau, DDS, and Dr. Cecilia Margraff, DDS, of Dentists South Shore with boxes of Crest toothpaste & toothbrushes. The healthy donation helped the youth of Milwaukee take care of their teeth and gums for Christmas!

Photo credits (right): OCM members Barb Brinkmann, Tom Volke and Betsy Debiase assemble gift bags for the Kosciusko Community center Christmas event.



Lake County Optimist Club's March Madness

Kevin Mattson and Joan Herrera

The Lake County Optimist Club had quite the busy March. Here are our updates:



1. National sports announcer and announcer for the Milwaukee Brewers, Brian Anderson attended the meeting too. After the meeting, Lance Allen from Channel 4 interviewed Brian for 30 minutes about the True Grit program and Brian's career. A 2-3-minute segment aired on the 10:00 news.

2. We honored three Optimist International Essay Contest winners:

1st place: Caroline McCance, awarded \$150

2nd place: Marianna Krueger, awarded \$100

3rd place: Jodi Mertins, awarded \$50



3. Four members of Arrowhead High School's Junior States of America (JSA) as well as their teacher adviser presented on their recent trip to Washington DC. According to the Arrowhead website, JSA is a bipartisan, nonprofit, organization made up of and run by students who are interested in politics and government, foreign affairs, law, policy, debate and education. The mission of JSA is to prepare high school students for their life-long involvement in politics. Optimist members in attendance were very impressed with these young adults, what they do as members of this organization and their travel experiences. Our club proudly assisted one of the students with a scholarship.

4. We presented Gabby Haas with the True Grit grand prize of a \$200 Visa gift card. True Grit is a new program for middle schoolers (grades 6-8) started by Lake County Optimist Club member Kevin Mattson. Gabby and the six other applicants competed at the February meeting and all were awarded a \$20 Visa gift card and a plaque. Gabby presented her award-winning presentation. For more information on the True Grit program, see page 11.



True Grit Program

Kevin Mattson, Lake County Optimist Club

I was a Middle School Special Education teacher. I wanted to grow my impact on youth beyond the students on my case load, so I opened a business called Building Students. I was unsuccessful in funding this business through government grants, so I reached out to Optimist International. There was not a club in my area, so I started the Lake County Optimist Club; we have been a chartered club for one year! I developed the criteria for the True Grit program and the Board

approved it. I had an appointment with seven middle school counselors in October who all graciously agreed to participate. Each of these school counselors were to identify one student who demonstrated the most growth in perseverance, endurance, and resilience through optimism, creativity, and confidence to achieve a desired academic or nonacademic goal. Each student is awarded a \$20 Visa gift card and a plaque. They also compete for the grand prize, a \$200 Visa gift card, by presenting their response to the prompt: "What is the difference between life with grit and life without grit?"

Seven students present on their answer to the question: "What is the difference between life with grit and life without grit?" either in the form of a (1) 500-word (max) written essay, 5-minute oral (2) speech, (3) presentation (Powerpoint, Powtoons, Prezi, etc.), (4) artwork (5) other pre-approved demonstration (song, poem, narrative, etc.). They are all awarded a \$20 Visa gift card and a plaque, and the grand prize winner additional receives a \$200 Visa gift card.

StoryBook Walk

Optimist Club of Platteville

With the arrival of spring, comes the annual StoryBook Walk, sponsored by the Optimist Club of Platteville. From now through December, the StoryBook Walk will be presented twice a month, featuring two different stories. This has become popular over the years with families walking and reading to their small children. This project is managed by Platteville Optimist Club member, Carley Borcharding (featured here).



“ReiMaging” the Optimist Creed

Bonnie Spindler

Now is the time that we need Optimism more than ever. In these troubling times, President Adrian asks us to “reImagine” the ways we serve our youth and our communities. But during an international pandemic, how can we fully lean into our Optimist missions? Let’s start with the Optimist Creed. Ever since we first became members, we have been asked “to make **your** optimism come true”. Instead, I invite you to ask yourself:

Question: How can “I” make “my” optimism come true?

Answer: By promising “myself” to do so.

Please enjoy **the “ReiMaged” Optimist Creed:**

Promise Yourself... **MYSELF**

To be so strong that nothing can disturb ~~your~~ **MY** peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person ~~you~~ **I** meet.

To make all ~~your~~ **MY** friends feel that there is something in them.

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

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

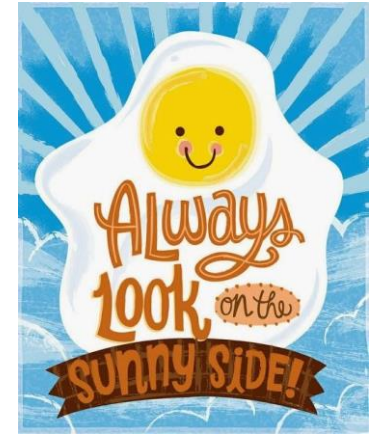
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as ~~you are about your~~ **I AM ABOUT MY** own.

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~~ **I** meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of ~~yourself~~ **MYSELF** that ~~you~~ **I** have no time to criticize others.

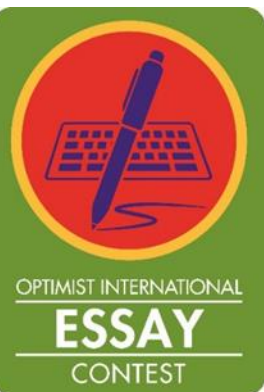
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.



SWIS District Essay Contest

Gloria Sutter, SWIS District Essay Contest Chair

The winner of the 2019-2020 SWIS District Essay Contest is Isabella Cicero, age 17, representing the Mequon-Thiensville Club. She will receive a \$2,500.00 scholarship through Optimist International. A total of 16 clubs participated on the District level. I would like to thank all the club chairpersons and judges for their promptness in getting the essays to me. This is a very worthwhile program and I’m proud of the work all of you have done.



Let's use our "iMaginations"

Youth Contests:

Optimist International is hosting two virtual contests for youth to show off their skills in photography, drawing and painting. For clubs that are interested in holding local contests, the rules and submission forms can be found at these links:

- [Visual Arts Competition](#)
- [Photography Contest](#)

Optimist Members:

Hey Optimists! We too can participate in a photography contest! Maureen Crombie, Sun Prairie Optimist Club, began a social media challenge to spread some virtual optimism. If you haven't been tagged in an OPTIMIST challenge post yet, you can start a new chain. Here's how it works: Using social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc), post the following text:

"Let's take the OPTIMIST Challenge! Let's take a break and do something optimistic! I am challenging my Optimist friends to post a picture of Optimism and tag five friends. These five friends need to post a picture and tag five of their friends."

Include a photo (or a series of photos) that you feel best represent(s) optimism, and tag five of your friends to join the challenge. You can also tag the @SWISDistrictOptimists on Facebook and Instagram so you can share your optimism with all of us!



2020-21 International Officers and Board of Directors Election

Now is your chance to determine the leadership of Optimist International by participating in our annual election!

2020-21 President-Elect Candidates:

- James Adams (ALMS)
- Pasty Garner – NTX
- Sandy Larivee (SWONT)
- Fatima Plater (MI)

2020-21 Board Director at Large Candidates (2 to be elected):

- Robert Doyle (EONT)
- Janet Lloyd (IA)
- Gil Ortiz (STX)
- Daniel Rich (NFL)
- Ginny Ricker (SC)

2020-21 Vice Presidents-Elect Candidates:

- Region 1 Northeast & Great Lakes – Sue Armstrong (OH)
- Region 2 Southeast – John Grover (SC)
- Region 3 Mid-Atlantic – Kathleen Manchec (AC)
- Region 4 Middle America – Lister Florence (EMO)
- Region 5 Great Plains – Josh Zaidel (SWIS)
- Region 6 Southwest – Curtis Merrill (COWY)
- Region 7 West Coast – Diane Siefkes (NE) & Cathy Hicks (PSW)
- Region 8 St. Lawrence – Nicole Paquette (EONT)

How voting works:

1. As of April 2nd, all candidates and their bios have been added to the Optimist International website www.optimist.org/elections. Their names are also listed to the left.
2. Club Presidents will receive an email an email from noreply@directvote.net on May 1st.
 - Please add them as an approved sender now, to avoid any complications.
 - Please make sure your email is correct in the OI system.
 - Please also make sure that your club's dues are paid in full or you will not receive a ballot.
3. Club Presidents may cast their vote anytime between 8AM on May 1st and 5PM on May 30th.
4. If you have questions, contact Tom Carver at (800) 500-8130 ext. 243 or (314) 881-1343, or email tom.carver@optimist.org.



An Untitled Fable

By Maxine Lane

SWIS District Newsletter Editor, Amanda Szymkowski, asked Optimist leaders to fill the pages with uplifting articles. This request gives me the perfect opportunity to share one of my writings. I love to write poetry and the following is my iMaginary fable that I have yet to title. I hope it gives you a calming sense during the stressful times our world is experiencing.

Have you ever found yourself strolling down a narrow dirt path, sparsely covered with mounds of grass? Although you're alone, you feel protected from the light given off from the trees that border both sides of this path. They are not just small trees but seemingly tower with great strength into the high heavens with a blaze of fiery colors. It starts to become more clear, the trees, their glowing light, their movement, where does this path lead?

You're approaching a gentle knoll; the grass covering appears to be of a velvety texture, so soft and gentle to the touch of your bare feet. You recognize the sound of water, a spring fed stream, icy cold water, but wait, it's full of golden little fish. Oh yes, let us not forget the trees, they encircle the pond of golden little fish, providing light and protection.

A gentle tap on my shoulder, I turn and a soft voice says to me, "Welcome my daughter, to the Garden of Eden." It becomes more clear now, the trees with their fiery color and protective light, they were angels sent from the heavens.

The fiery color is gone, there is no more glowing light, the movement is still as the timber covering has fallen to cover the cold ground. What becomes of this, why have the leaves gently fallen to blanket the earth? Again, it becomes clear, to provide warmth and protection to the small creatures during the cold. The fiery light that once shown so brightly and gave warmth to the timber remains; however, not visible, we believe, as it descends down from the heavens above.

Although not visible, we believe and soon will see as we journey back the familiar path once traveled. The blanket covered ground is once again set free to unearth the glorious colors deadened in the cold and the trees, let us not forget the trees. They now billow in the wind with the timber now fully dressed in folds of green. The limbs outstretched hold and protect as did the fallen leaves.

A second tap on my shoulder, so gentle, and a soft voice says to me, "Good morning my daughter, it's time to get ready for school." It's familiar, by touch, smell, sound, sight. Behind this voice is the source of my gift of life, my Mother. For thirteen years she has been my warmth, protection and glowing light...as have the trees to God's nature.

SWIS District 2019-2020 Lieutenant Governors

Zone 1

Rose Schwartz
rschwartz24@wi.rr.com
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Zone 5

Philip Sheahan
216-702-6957



Zone 2

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Zone 6

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Zone 8

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SWIS District Governor's Team 2019-2020



Christine Dieckhoff
Governor



Maureen Crombie
Past Governor,
Fitness Chair



Maxine Lane
Governor Elect



Monica Tittle
District Secretary



Howard Crofoot
District Treasurer



Joanne Ganske
OI Ambassador



Wayne Dieckhoff
OI Foundation
Representative



OPEN
Activities Chair



Jeffery Kuchenbecker
Finance Committee



Amanda Szymkowski
Newsletter Editor



Bonnie Spindler
Website Chair



Vern Andren
Leadership Dev. Co-Chair



Amy Soleimani-Mafi
Tri-Star Co-Chair

Maxine Lane: Governor Elect
Jo'El Pearlman: Conference Chair, Oratorical Chair
Tom Carls: Junior Golf Chair; **Carl Trapp:** Hospitality Chair
OPEN: CCDHH Chair; **Gloria Sutter:** Essay Chair
Joe Mundwiler: Tri-Star Basketball Chair; **Richard Vogel:** Membership
Barb Brinkmann: Leadership Development Chair
Vern Andren: New Club Building
Liz VanNatta: New Club Building Chair

Visit the SWIS District Website today!

www.swisdistrict.org

Bonnie Spindler

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District Newsletters



Youth Programs



Conferences



District/Club Events

'Imagine: Serving children in a changing world'

Christine Dieckhoff
SWIS Governor 2019 - 2020

Leadership Tools Optimist Clubs Youth Programs District Conferences Resources/Information

- Leadership Tools
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 - Succeeding As A Leader
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 - Past Governors
 - District Positions Available
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 - District Officers
 - OI Officers
 - Optimist Regions

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.



Thank you to everyone who contributed articles to this edition of the SWIS District Newsletter. Please send me your club stories, district and zone events, committee updates, member acknowledgments, and other articles that you would like to contribute. I will gladly accept them at anytime. Thank you!

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