

Nebraska District Optimists

Carla Gries, District Governor



Choose Optimism

November 2022 Newsletter

Exciting News ...

We are excited to announce that we are now launching an all new district newsletter. If you have an item for the newsletter, email it to Sharon Flinn.

*Please type NEWSLETTER in the subject line.
sharonomaha66@gmail.com*



Mark Your Calendars

December 10

Last day to get gifts
to Bob Karcher

Feb. 15, 2023

File IRS form 990-N

**Feb. 24-25,
2023**

2nd Quarter Conf.
Lincoln, NE

**Apr. 21-22
2023**

3rd Quarter Conf.
combined with Iowa
in Omaha or Council
Bluffs

Project Elf



Every year our club partners with the Nebraska Children's Home Society to help provide Christmas presents for orphans. We receive a wish list from between 25 and 30 children.

If you would like to join me in helping to make an orphan's Christmas a little better, take a look at the attached list and choose a gift. You may get the gift(s) yourself or have us get things for you. Some things to note:

- * If you plan to get the gift yourself, let me know so I can keep track of who's getting what.
- * Also, when you get the gift(s) yourself, be sure to mark the gift number on the package/box. The number is in the far left column.
- * You do not need to wrap the gift(s).
- * Please bring your gift(s) to one of our weekly Optimists' meetings. The absolute **deadline is December 10**. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Bob Karcher, Omaha Breakfast Optimist Club
baldeagleinsurance@gmail.com

New Nets Net Ogallala Optimists Service Award

The Ogallala Optimist Club was recognized as Service Organization of the Year by the Ogallala/Keith County Chamber of Commerce at their annual Chamber Banquet on November 1st. The club was recognized for their involvement in developing a Beach Volleyball Complex, which will be used by competitive teams and the general public. It will bring thousands of visitors to the community for tournaments.

They were also honored for their continuous improvement of Humphreys Youth Fishing Pond, their support of local youth activities, volunteering with



Pictured Left to right are: Doug Davis (21-22 President), Shelly Witt (Secretary/Treasurer & Lt. Gov), and Bruce Wilson (22-23



So Much Talent to Share

In planning ahead for the 2nd Quarter Conference in February, we just know that there are many talented individuals with ideas and expertise to share. Has your club had an extremely interesting or dynamic speaker at one of your meetings? Do you know someone who would be a great presenter? Perhaps YOU are the one with the talent. Please share your ideas for presenters at our conference. Contact Carla Gries at: dcgries@cox.net



This time of year we have so much to be thankful for ... and so much to share with others. We know that your clubs are involved in a variety of service projects to help others in your community. We, as optimists, are thankful for all that you do. Please share about your club's service projects related to the holidays. Type NEWSLETTER in the subject line. Send to: sharonomaha66@gmail.com

*Wishing you and yours
a blessed and thankful
holiday!*



How to Avoid a Political Showdown at the Thanksgiving Table

A guide to diffusing and diverting
your craziest relatives

By Mackenzie Schmidt
Updated on November 23, 2020

Ah, Thanksgiving, a day to put our cooking skills and our aptitude for non-violent conflict resolution to the test. Families around the country will come together this Thanksgiving to eat, drink, give thanks and remember that time a few hundred years ago when groups of people from different backgrounds and with disparate beliefs managed to come together to eat dinner in peace. If they can do it, so can we.

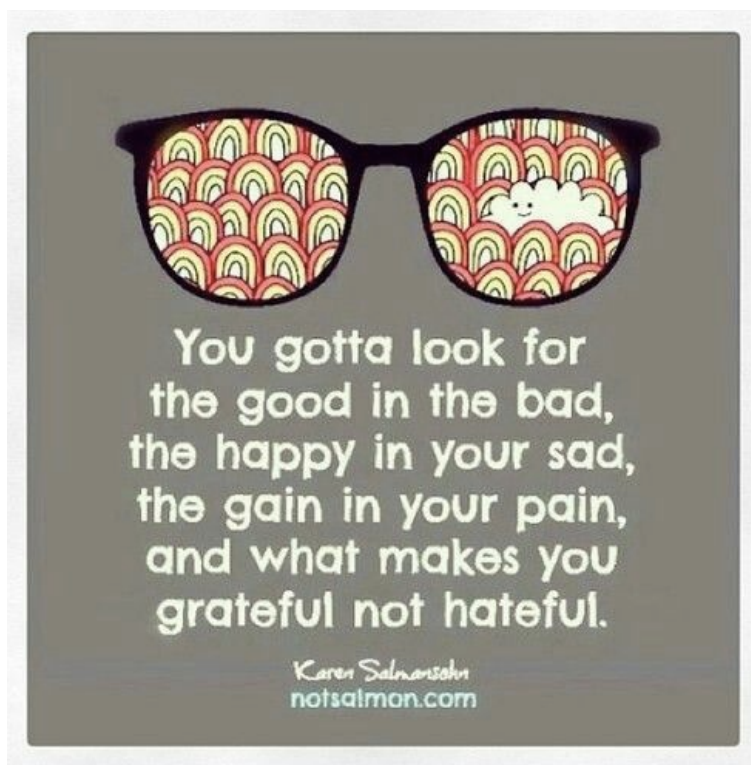
With political tensions running especially high post-election, a universal dread has settled over many holiday traveler.. How do you avoid a showdown at the dinner table? We asked Lizzie Post, great-great-granddaughter of Emily Post, to share her advice on how to diffuse difficult conversations and keep the peace. “There are few ways to handle tough conversations, like political arguments,” Post says. “First, you can set expectations before the meal even begins by saying something like, ‘It’s been a crazy year and I’d like to ask that we not talk politics. We all have a lot to catch up on.’” If none of your guests are determined to debate, this could salvage a civilized dinner.

If things take a turn as the conversation (and alcohol) flows, Post says, “It’s important to redirect, not correct, so everyone feels comfortable. I recommend saying something like, ‘John, I’d love to get away from politics (or finances, religion, romantic drama, etc.) and hear about your vacation to the Grand Canyon.’” She explains, “By turning the conversation to more personal topics and encouraging discussion, you can be sure not to offend any guests while maintaining a positive atmosphere at the table.”

This is all great if your family is on the mellow side, but Post does have a failsafe plan for that one rowdy uncle who can’t take a hint. “If you try to redirect the conversation a few times and it’s not working, as the host, it is completely appropriate for you to say, with a smile & a friendly, firm tone, ‘We are finished talking politics at the table.’ And then once again, begin a new positive conversation.”

Article from www.people.com

People



List of Toys for Orphans (contact Bob Karcher)

AGD #	First Name	Gender	Age	Clothing Size	Clothing Needs	Gift Ideas	Giftcard Ideas
8014	Kailinya	girl	5 years	5T/6T	Underwear, leggings, jackets, jeggings, long shirts/jackets	Dolls, dress up dolls, learning activities	Target, Walmart, Raising Canes, Cold Stone Creamery
8015	Laila	girl	8 years	Size 8, shoe size 3y	Nike hoodies, night clothes, hair bows	Unicorn or horse toys	Target
8016	Larayiah	girl	9 years	Size 9 in women shoes, Size 9 clothes	Shirts, pants	Baby Doll Toys, Starbucks items	Target gift cards
8017	Liam	Male	11 years	Shirt 10-12 (kids), pants 9 (kids)	Socks, sweats or athletic pants	Anything with fortnight	Target
8018	London	girl	5 years	size 5, shoe size 11c	socks, shoes	Barbie House, V Tech reading book	McDonalds Gift Card
8019	London	girl	13 years	Womens Medium	Shirts with cartoon characters or plain shirts that are colorful	Any Lego Set	Target
8020	Luna	girl	2.5 years	3T	Pants and underwear (may socks)	She likes to sing, dance, color, and likes play-doh sets	Target
8021	Lyndel	Male	4 years	3T or 4T	Shirts or Pants	Dinosaur or Art Supplies	Target
8023	MarLayiah	Female	3 years	4T	Jeans, Shirts	Baby Dolls	Target, Wal-mart

List of Toys for Orphans (CONTINUED) (contact Bob Karcher)

8024	Mekeyell	Male	4 years	6T	Winter jogging suits, tee shirts (white), undies (5T), socks, Cartoon Hat & scarf	Legos, Trainset/ V-tech/Flash Cards	Amazon/Ross Clothing Store/ Walmart
8024	Micah	Male	2 years	4T	Jogging suits, Tshirts, socks, cartoon hats and scarf set, pull ups 2T-3T	Little Tikes Cozy Coupe, Big Block Lego (Fisher Price, Little People)	Amazon, Ross Clothing Store, Walmart
8027	Nina	Female	2.5 years	4T	Basics-long sleeve tees, comfy pants, hoodies, etc.	Dr. set, scooter, dress up clothes (fireman, farmer, etc.), tools, dinosaurs, bath toys	Target, Amazon
8029	Pierre	Male	1 year	24 months	Pants, Pajamas, Socks	Learning Toys	Walmart
8030	Samuel	Male	3 years	5T-6T	Long sleeve shirts, comfy pants (sweat pants)	blocks, dinosaurs, puzzles, books, dragons	Target, Walmart
8031	Theory	Male	4.5 years	4T	Shirts or Pants	Dinosaur or Toy Cars and Track Set	Target
8032	Tre'Vaire	Male	2 years	4T	Jackets, pants, socks, shirts, sweatpants	Toys, potty chair	Burlington, Old Navy, Ross, Marshalls
8033	Zyahire	Male	7 years	Boys 10-12	Boys pajamas, boy winter clothes	Video game - Take Two NBA 2K16, Spiderman video games	Walmart, Target

