



## NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST DIRECTORY

SANDRA ALLEN  
GOVERNOR  
2020-2021



### **Mission Statement**

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

### **Vision Statement**

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier volunteer organization that values all children and helps them to develop their full potential.

### **Purposes of Optimist International**

1. To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed;
2. To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
3. To inspire respect for the law;
4. To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
5. To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.

### **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 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.

***OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL***

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Purposes of Optimist International, Optimist Creed.....	2
Calendar of Events & Report Due Dates.....	4
Greetings from OI President Mark Weinsoff .....	5
International Optimist Officers .....	6
2020-2021 Nebraska District Optimist Officers, Executive Committee & Directors.....	7
2020-2021 Nebraska District JOI Officers and JOI Clubs.....	8
Nebraska District Committees .....	9
Nebraska Club Officers by Zone .....	10-21
Zone 1 .....	10-11
Zone 2 .....	12
Zone 3.....	13
Zone 4.....	14
Zone 5.....	15
Zone 6.....	16-17
Zone 7 .....	18-19
Zone 8.....	20
Zone 9.....	21
Nebraska Optimist District Goals and Plans .....	22
Nebraska District Conferences and Convention.....	23
Optimist International 103rd Annual Convention.....	24
History: Nebraska District Governors & Lieutenant Governors .....	25-30
Optimist International Contact Information.....	31
Optimist International Recognition Program .....	32

# 2020-21 CALENDAR OF EVENTS & REPORT DUE DATES

(Due to the Covid Pandemic, some dates and venues may change)

## 2020

October 1	District Leadership Retreat, Zoom	Sandra Allen
October 1	First Day of 2020-2021 Administrative Year	
October TBA	District Tri Star PP&K Contest TBA	Bob Grundman
October 10	A & A Reports Due	Judith Winkler
November 14	First Quarter Conference, Zoom	Sandra Allen

## 2021

January 1	First Day Second Quarter	
January 10	A & A Reports Due	Judith Winkler
January 9	Academic Decathlon On-Line Regional Competition	John Anstey
February 15	File IRS Form 990-N	IRS
February 19	State Academic Decathlon Speech and Interview Competition On Line	John Anstey
February 20	State Academic Decathlon Objective Finals On Line	John Anstey
February 26-27	Second Quarter Conference, Zoom	Sandra Allen
February 28	District Essay Contest Deadline “Reaching Your Dreams by Choosing Optimism”	Lana Urban
April 1	First Day Third Quarter	
April 10	A & A Reports Due	Judith Winkler
April 15	District Oratorical Deadline “Healing the World With Optimism”	Gloria Epps
April 24	Nebraska District CCDHH Contest “Healing the World With Optimism” Camp Solaris, Firth	Mark Claussen
April 30-May 1	Third Quarter Conference, Columbus	Ardis Moody
April-May TBA	Siouxland Summit, Sioux City, IA	Mark Claussen
May 1	Respect for Law Day	
May 2	District Oratorical Competition	Gloria Epps
May TBA	District Tri-Star PHR Contest	Bob Grundman
May 20	Club Officer Election Report Due to OI	OI Office
May TBA	Registration Deadline Jr., Golf Qualifier	Dick Raasch
June TBA	OI Junior Golf State Competition at 9:00 am	
	York Country Club, York (tentative)	
June 10	A & A Reports Due	Dick Raasch
June 30, July 1,2,3	Optimist International Convention, Atlanta	Judith Winkler
July 1	First Day 4th & Last Quarter	Linda Wheeler
July 10	A & A Reports Due	
July 14-29	OI Jr. Golf Finals	Judith Winkler
	Doral Resort & Spa, Miami	
August 21-22	Nebraska District Convention, Omaha	Dick Raasch
August TBA	Summer Bash CCC Fundraiser	Ardis Moody
	LaVista Conference Center	
September 30	Optimist of the Year Due	(tentative) MAYF
September 30	Optimist Club of the Year Due	TBA
September 30	Last Day of 2020-2021 Administrative Year	



Welcome to the Choose Optimism Year...

I thank you for the commitment you have made to take a leadership role for your Club in the 2020-2021 year. I believe we are the greatest service organization in the world, yet we find our membership numbers have not reflected the important role we can play in every community. In the coming year, I urge you to focus on making your Club a source of optimism in your community. We are leaders for positive change in our communities, and this is what people are looking for in these uncertain times.

I have heard many Club leaders tell me people don't join service organizations any more, and that young people have abandoned the service Club model that Optimist Clubs have offered for many years. Here is my answer to this belief: If people no longer want to join service Clubs, then why are you talking about your Club as a service Club? I am not recommending your Club abandon community service. Community service is what gives meaning and purpose to our membership. I am recommending your Club provide something of value to your members in addition to the fulfillment we receive from community service.

We have something to offer that no other service organization has...OPTIMISM! Optimism is attractive to all people of all ages. That is why the theme for the 2020-2021 year is Choose Optimism. If you choose optimism in your Club gatherings, your members will spread that optimism in your community.

My goal is to transform our organization from a service organization to an optimistic organization. Please join me in this effort by transforming your Club from an optimist Club to an optimistic Club. What do I mean by that? I mean we need to bring optimism into every Club gathering. We should not just rely on recitation of the Optimist Creed at the end of our meeting for a dose of optimism. Include optimistic activities in every Club gathering in addition to the Creed. Offer optimistic activities in the community such as participating in the International Day of Happiness on March 20, 2021. Our Activities and Club Fitness Committees will be in providing information to your Clubs with recommendations for increasing optimistic activities in your Club and the community.

In addition, I am willing to visit any Club meetings by Zoom to share my vision with your Club. Invite me at your convenience to discuss how your Club can share the five scientifically proven components of well-being (Optimism, Purpose, Engagement, Positive Relationships and Accomplishment) with your membership.

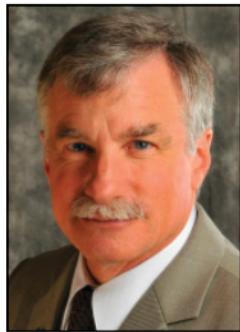
Thank you again for your commitment to your Club success. I look forward to Choosing Optimism with you during the 2020-2021 year.

Sincerely,

*Mark Weinscott*  
2020-2021 President  
Optimist International



## INTERNATIONAL OPTIMIST OFFICERS



**President**  
Mark Weinsoff  
Clubs of Santa Barbara, Northside  
and UC, Santa Barbara, California



**President-Elect**  
Patsy Garner  
Breakfast Club of East Arlington  
Arlington Community Optimist Club  
Fort Worth, Texas



**Great Plains Regional Vice President**  
Terry Gorman  
Optimist Club of St. Paul  
St. Paul, Minnesota



**JOI Club President**  
Sophie-Chanel Bourré

### GREAT PLAINS DISTRICT GOVERNORS

**Alberta-Montana-Saskatchewan & Northern Wyoming:** Marilyn Bushnell

**Dakotas-Manitoba-Minnesota:** Carmen Bakken

**Iowa:** Sharon Nakato

**Nebraska:** Sandra Allen

**Southern Wisconsin:** Maxine Lane

**Wisconsin North-Upper Michigan:** Ann Sheahan

# 2020-2021 NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & DIRECTORS



**Governor**  
Sandra Allen



**Secretary**  
Linda Leatherman



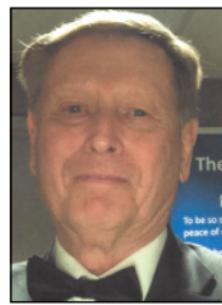
**Treasurer**  
Curtis Huston



**Governor-Elect**  
Cindy Von Fange



**Immediate Past Governor**  
Linda Wheeler



**Past Governor**  
Beryle Lantz



**Lucas Ransen**  
**Nebraska JOI Governor**



**Governor's Assistant  
Administrative**  
Carla Gries



**Governor's Assistant  
Strategic Planning**  
Paul Keller

*The Board of Directors consists of the District Officers,  
Lieutenant Governors, and the Presidents of each member club.*

# 2020-2021 NEBRASKA DISTRICT JOI OFFICERS



## **Governor**

Lucas Ransen

## **Secretary-Treasurer**

Pareena Ponniah

## **Nebraska District JOI Chairman**

Mark Claussen

## **JOI CLUBS**

Dakota City JOI Club

Norfolk Panther Jr. Optimist Club (Norfolk Jr. High)

Norfolk Panther Octagon Club (Norfolk Sr. High)

Plattsmouth Helping Hands JOI Club

ROAK Jr. Optimist Club (Norfolk Middle)

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST COMMITTEES

## CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION

Governor Sandra Allen,

### Convention Coordinator

Ardis Moody,

### Registrar

TBA

### Assistant Registrar

Deb Reding,

### Hospitality and Supplies

TBA

### Technical Coordinator

Lee Kilgas

### Candidate Qualifications

Linda Wheeler, Chair,

### Chaplain

Rev. Kenneth Allen,

### Credentials

Chair TBA

### OI Convention Ambassador

Linda Wheeler,

### Sergeant-At-Arms

Jessica Von Fange,

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Leadership Development

TBA

PGI (Personal Growth & Involvement) and  
PDP (Professional Development Program)  
Tamara Bailey,

## ADMINISTRATIVE

### Achievements and Awards

Judith Winkler,

### Childhood Health and Wellness

David Catalan,

### Finance

TBA

### OI Foundation Representative

Beryle Lantz,

### Policy Review

Al Penner,

## Zone Alignment

Cynthia Von Fange, Chair,

### Growth Team

Marvin Wastell, Chair,

### Membership

### New Club Building

Club Fitness- Linda Wheeler,

## Marketing and Communications

Diane Siefkes, Chair,

Directory—Carla Gries,

Newsletter Editor—Betty Totten,

Social Media-- Diane Siefkes,

Webmaster—Nels Sorensen,

Zoom Coordinator-- Jessica Von Fange,

## DISTRICT YOUTH PROGRAMS

### CCDHH (Communication Contest

### For the Deaf and Hard of Hearing)

Mark Claussen

### OI Essay Contest

Lana Urban, Chair.

### OI Oratorical Contest

Gloria Epps, Chair,

### OI Junior Golf Championships

Dick Raasch, Chair,

### Tri-Star Sports

Bob Grundman, Chair,

### JOI (Junior Optimist)

Mark Claussen,

### Academic Decathlon

John Anstey,

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 1



**Zone 1**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Wendy Townley

**Foundation Representative**  
Linda Wheeler

**President**  
Robert Labedz

### BREAKFAST - 10015

Thursday at 7:15 am  
Stories Coffee  
10426 Davenport St.

**Secretary**  
Gwendolyn Foxall

**President**  
Robert Karcher

**Treasurer**  
Curtis W. Huston

**Secretary**  
Vernon Dolleck

**Foundation Representative**  
Paul Keller

### BLAIR - 10014

Blair Area Chamber of Commerce  
1646 Washington St., Blair  
2nd and 4th Wednesday at Noon

**President**  
Jay Wolfe

**Treasurer**  
Shari Dolleck

**Secretary**  
Jordan Rischel

**Foundation Representative**  
Ron Rosberg

**OMAHA - 1085**  
Wednesday at Noon  
12325 Golfing Green Dr., Omaha  
Oak Hills Country Club

**Treasurer**  
Katie Henn

**President**  
Andrew Galvin

**MIRACLE HILLS-10064**  
1st, 2nd and 4th Tuesday at Noon  
3rd Wednesday at 6:00 pm  
Pizza West 12301 West Maple Rd.,  
Omaha

**Secretary**  
Wendy Townley

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

**Treasurer**

Merwyn C. Pearson

**Secretary**

Felicia Carroll

**OMAHA WEST -10151**

Meetings as called

**President**

Chris Walker

**NORTH OMAHA – 10143**

3rd Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Zion Baptist Church

2215 Grant St., Omaha

**Treasurer**

Shirley Finch-Willis

**Secretary**

Holly Meyer

**President**

William G. Graves

**Foundation Representative**

Patricia Patterson

**Treasurer**

Alan Gilmore

**Foundation Representative**

Mark Scheetz



**Optimist**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
Nebraska District

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 2



**Zone 2**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Carla Gries

### SOUTHWEST OMAHA – 10011

Sean O'Casey's Pub  
2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30 pm  
2523 S 140th Ave.

**President**  
Michelene Nissen

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Carla Gries

**Foundation Representative**  
Corinne N. Wastell

### ELKHORN - 10013

Does not meet regularly

**President**  
Andrea Abrahamson

**Secretary**  
Jason Gustafson

**Treasurer**  
Andrea Abrahamson

### NORTH BEND - 10067

1st Sunday of the Month at 7:30 pm  
1421 Main St.

**President**  
Thomas Mullally

**Secretary**  
Andrea Halladay

**Treasurer**  
Brent Karnatz

### FREMONT - 10035

Pizza Hut, 1781 E 23rd St..  
4th Tuesday of the month

**President/ Foundation Representative**  
Stanford Darling

**Secretary**  
Darcie Morgan

### WEST POINT - 10116

3rd Wednesday at Noon  
Pizza Ranch, 245 S. Main

**President**  
JoAnn C Lewis

**Secretary**  
Ann Beckenhauer

**Treasurer**  
JoAnn C Lewis

**Foundation Representative**  
Ann Beckenhauer

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 3



**Zone 3**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Bob Karcher

**RALSTON - 10023**  
Last Tuesday of month at 5:30 pm  
Elks Lodge, 6410 S 96th St., Omaha

**President**  
Mark Krzemien

**Secretary**  
Andy M. Dubbs

**Foundation Representative**  
Mark Krzemien

**GRETNA - 10041**  
Thursday at 7:00 am  
Billy's Café, 20596 NE Hwy 370  
Gretna

**President**  
Julie Hayes

**Secretary**  
Helen Ortlieb

**Secretary**  
Denise Hancock

**Treasurer**  
Melissa Jabens

**PLATTSMOUTH - 10088**  
Saturdays at 8:00 am  
Mom's Café, 422 Main St.  
Plattsmouth

**President**  
Michael Tabler

**Foundation Representative**  
Michael Evans

**Secretary**  
Daniel Wehrbein

**PAPILLION-LA VISTA - 10087**  
1st Thursday at 11:45 am Jersey's  
Sports Bar, 501 Olson Dr.  
3rd Thursday at 11:45 am Ollie and  
Hobbes Craft Kitchen, 310 E. Gold  
Coast Rd.

**President**  
Fred Uhe

**Foundation Representative**  
Daniel Wehrbein



# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 4



Zone 4  
Lieutenant Governor  
Diana Rizzo

**NORFOLK - 10065**  
Wednesdays at 7 a.m.  
First Choice Catering, 1110 S 9th St.

**President**  
Daniel K Sturgis

**Secretary**  
Mark D. Nelson

**Treasurer**  
Mary Busse

**Foundation Representative**  
Dale Beckman

**NORFOLK NOON - 10077**  
Norfolk Country Club, 1700 N  
Riverside Blvd.  
1st and 3rd Fridays

**President/ Foundation  
Representative**  
Mark R. Claussen

**Secretary/Treasurer**  
Deanne L. Vornhagen

**SOUTH SIOUX CITY MORNING -  
10100**  
Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m.  
South Sioux City Legion Hall  
109 E 19th St.

**President**  
Diana L. Kincaid

**Secretary**  
Ardel Ann Bengston

**Treasurer**  
Mark Gehring

**Foundation Representative**  
Lora L. Kander

**WAYNE - 10128**  
Virtual Meetings to be Announced

**President**  
Jessica Von Fange

**Secretary**  
Kim Dunklau

**Treasurer**  
Scot Saul

**Foundation Representative**  
Cynthia R. Von Fange

**O'NEILL - 10151**  
3rd Thursday at 5:30 p.m.  
Chesterfields West  
305 E Douglas St.

**President**  
Bill Price

**Secretary**  
Lacie Miller

**Treasurer**  
Morgan Childers

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 5



**Zone 5**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Marvin Shimmel

**BEATRICE – 10000**  
2nd and 4th Tuesdays at noon  
Country Cookin, 111 S 8th St.

**President**  
Eric Klassen

**Secretary**  
Colt Feighner

**Foundation Representative**  
Burt Foreman

**AUBURN – 10002**  
1st, 2nd & 4th Saturdays at 7:00 am  
Café Metro, 901 Central Ave.

**President**  
Daryl J. Obermeyer

**Secretary**  
Jacqueline R. Obermeyer

**Foundation Representative**  
Marvin F. Shimmel

**FAIRBURY - 10030**  
2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 pm  
Bonham Theatre  
519 E St., Fairbury

**President**  
Diane Schutt

**Secretary**  
Nels Sorensen, Jr.

**Foundation Representative**  
Jake Hightshoe

**NEBRASKA CITY – 10147**  
1st Thursday at 6:00 Social Meeting,  
place TBD  
3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm. General  
Meeting  
American National Bank  
920 Central Ave

**President**  
Leslie Deremer

**Secretary**  
Katie Mocnik

**Foundation Representative**  
Diane Siefkies

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 6



**Zone 6**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Margaret Reynolds

**LINCOLN EVENING - 10025**  
2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:30 pm  
Taylor Meadows Office Building,  
1001 S 70th

**President**  
Pat Driver

**Secretary**  
Kirsten Minert

**Treasurer**  
Dorothy I Williams

**LINCOLN - 10055**  
3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm  
The Eatery, 2548 S 48th St.

**President**  
Mary L. Andersen

**Secretary**  
Sue Petracek

**Treasurer**  
Jerry J Salber

**Foundation Representative**  
Kailen J. Kluge

**LINCOLN WEST - 10056**  
3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm  
Dick Van Horn Lodge,  
Branched Oak Lake  
Or at a local restaurant

**President**  
Mary E. Sanders

**Secretary**  
Judith Winkler

**Treasurer**  
Charlene Mills

**Foundation Representative**  
Ashlee Cooney

**LINCOLN SUNRISE**  
Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m.  
Good Evens Restaurant, 6891 A St.

**President**  
Sean Erickson

**Secretary**  
Robert Grundman

**Foundation Representative**  
LeRoy Sievers

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

**LINCOLN FRIENDS - 10153**

Looking for new meeting location

**Treasurer**

Angela Tintori

**President**

Linda Leatherman

**President**

Elissa Fuelberth

**Foundation Representative**

Diane Siefkes

**Secretary**

Jacilyn Bruns

**Secretary**

Loree Woods

**HICKMAN—10154**

3rd Thursday at 6:00 pm

Hickman Community Center

**Foundation Representative**

Judith Kluge



“The moment you doubt whether you can fly,  
you cease for ever to be able to do it.”

J. M. Barrie, Peter Pan

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 7



**Zone 7**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
Judith Kluge

**COLUMBUS—10020**  
Fridays at Noon  
HyVee Meeting Room  
3010 23rd St.

**President**  
Dale Rosendahl

**Secretary**  
Lana Urban

**Treasurer**  
Marc Guthrie

**Secretary**  
Katie Loveless

**Foundation Representative**  
Joan Reeves

**Treasurer**  
Linda K. Price

### AURORA - 10004

Fridays at Noon  
Hamilton County Senior Center  
1205 11th St.

**President**  
Jesse R. Dubas

**Foundation Representative**  
James J Holmberg III

**YORK- 10122**  
Mondays at Noon  
Chances R , 124 W 5th St.  
(plated dinner, contact president  
before attending)

**President**  
Alex Hildebrand

**Secretary**  
Deborah L. Quick

**SEWARD-10097**  
1st and 3rd Thursday at 7:00 pm  
Seward Bowl, 123 S 4th St.

**Secretary**  
Ben Garrett

**President**  
Morgan Kozisek

**Foundation Representative**  
Ronald Paider

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

**Treasurer**

Daryl L. Wilton

**DAVID CITY—10138**

1st and 3rd Wednesdays at Noon  
1152 N 8th St., David City

**Treasurer**

Deb Dinkleman

**President**

Judith Kluge

**Foundation Representative**

Richard Kant

**Foundation Representative**

Judith Kluge

**Secretary**

Linda A. Wheeler



“Let’s promise ourselves to use the storms of life to soar to greater heights.

Why?

Because we are Optimists!”

-Governor Sandra,  
Nebraska Optimists District Convention (August 2020)

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 8

**THIS COULD  
BE YOU!**

**ASK HOW TO  
HELP TODAY!**

Zone 9  
Lieutenant Governor

**Secretary**  
Jeff C. Knapp

**MINDEN - 10058**  
Thursdays at Noon  
ElGave Mexican Restaurant  
548 North Minden Ave.

**President**  
Todd Rehtus

**Treasurer**  
Andrew Hanson

**Secretary**  
Rebecca Rehtus

**Foundation Representative**  
Jeff C. Knapp

### HOLDREGE - 10047

Does not Meet on a Regular Basis

**President**  
Janelle Pfeifer

**LEXINGTON—10053**  
1st Tuesdays at 8:00 a.m.  
Kirk's Nebraskaland  
3002 Plum Creek Parkway

**Foundation Representative**  
Terry A. Christensen

**Secretary**  
Marge A. Melroy

**President**  
Kip Schneider

**McCOOK - 10059**  
Mondays at Noon  
Fullers, 110 Norris Ave.

**Foundation Representative**  
Marge A. Melroy

**Secretary**  
Dustin Davis

**Secretary**  
Aaron Broz

**KEARNEY—10050**  
2nd and 4th Wednesday at Noon  
Perkins Restaurant  
609 South 2nd Ave.

**Treasurer**  
Carl Hays

**Treasurer**  
Mark Graff

**President**  
Justin Smallfoot

**Foundation Representative**  
Ken Graus

**Foundation Representative**  
Matthew J. Tiller

# NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMIST CLUBS

## ZONE 9



**Zone 9**  
**Lieutenant Governor**  
David Thelen

**Foundation Representative**  
Jeffrey M. Oeltjen

**Secretary**  
Shelly Witt

**NORTH PLATTE—10075**  
2nd Saturdays at 8:00 a.m.  
Perkins, 2302 S Jeffers St.

**President**  
David L. Thelen

**Foundation Representative**  
Brian Wilson

**PAXTON - 10086**  
2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am  
Swede's Café, 117 N Oak St.

**Secretary**  
Christopher Bruns

**President**  
Kenneth C. Lierley

**BROKEN BOW—10017**  
3rd Thursdays at 5:15 pm  
Legends, 845 S "D" St.

**President**  
Maureen Hunsberger

**Foundation Representative**  
David L. Thelen

**Secretary**  
Calvin Schultz

**Secretary**  
Breanna Kaup

**OGALLALA—10082**  
Fridays at Noon  
Valentino's, 55 River Rd.

**Treasurer**  
Del Dack

**President**  
Brian Wilson

**Treasurer**  
Rebeka Anderson

**Foundation Representative**  
Jon Holzfaster



## Nebraska Optimist District Goals and Plans

1. To develop a culture of empowerment and engagement, as evidenced by sharing of ideas, delegation of responsibilities and the development of new leaders.
2. To develop a District succession plan for potential Governors-Elect and Lieutenant Governors.
3. To establish a 1, 3 and 5-year strategic plan.
4. To retain at least 80% of individuals who are members on October 1, 2020.
5. To add 250 *new* club members to the Nebraska District.
6. To build at least 3 new clubs within the District and at least two international clubs.
7. To have a Club Foundation Representative for each club and each club to make a financial contribution to the Optimist International Foundation during the 2020-21 Optimist year.
8. To have *active* committees that collaborate with each other and serve as useful resources to our local clubs.
9. To have at least 50% of club presidents, 50% of club secretaries and treasurers, and 50% of club foundation reps complete the OI Learning Management System online training module for his/her respective office.
10. To bring *fun* back!

**Sandra Allen, 2020-2021 Nebraska District Governor**



**NEBRASKA DISTRICT OPTIMISTS  
2020-2021  
CONFERENCES AND CONVENTION**

**First Quarter Conference**

**November 14, 2020**

**Zoom Conference**

**Second Quarter Conference**

**February 26-27, 2021**

**Zoom Conference**

**Third Quarter Conference**

**April 30 – May 1, 2021**

**Columbus**

**2020-2021 Annual District Conference**

**August 21-22, 2021**

**Omaha**

# SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!



## Optimist International 103<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention Wed., June 30 - Sat., July 3, 2021

### THE HYATT REGENCY & CITY OF ATLANTA Welcomes Optimist International in 2021!

From attractions to shopping to sports and outdoors, you'll find so many activities and things to do in Atlanta That you might have to spend an extra night or two!

Make sure your trip is as affordable as it is memorable; grab an **Atlanta CityPASS** and save on tickets to top attractions.

To make your hotel reservation, type the following into your browser:

<https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/ATLRA/G-OPTI>

### FOLLOW THE CONVERSATION

Join the Optimist International event on the Optimist Facebook page and tag all your convention posts with #OICON2021.



# HISTORY: NEBRASKA DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Nebraska Members who served as Governor in Former District 10:

1927-28	+Dan H. Hayes	(Lincoln)
1929-39	+ J. Lloyd McMasters	(Lincoln)
1934-35	+ Kenneth B. Cary	(Lincoln)
1940-41	+ Charles "Bud" Sharrick	(Lincoln)
1941-42	--Donald H. Knott	(Omaha)
1945-46	+Clyde O. Darner	(Omaha)
1949-50	+W. Harry Bruner	(Omaha)
1951-52	+Paul Haberlan	(Lincoln)
1956-57	+Alden O. Holm	(Omaha)

## NEBRASKA DISTRICT

<b>1961-62</b> John Day +R.R. Bricker	+Richard W. Vincent (Omaha) +Ed Mitchell^	S/T Max Zentz +E.V. (Vic Nielsen)^
<b>1962-63</b> +J.J. Exon Victor Jacobson^	(1) +E.V. (Vic) Nielsen (Fremont) Werner Wittges Leslie H. Goodman	S/T +Arnold Wittman Joseph L. Jones
<b>1963-64</b> +Ernest J. Jenny* +Nick Noel^	(2) +E.L. "Ed" Mitchell (Omaha-South) Howard E. Brown+	S/T Steve Tomasek +Leonard S. Schaefer^
<b>1964-65</b> +Claude O'Connor Dr. Gale Oleson	(2)+Victor Jacobson (Norfolk) & (same)+ James L. Henderson (Omaha) Herbert G. Harris Steve Tomasek	S/T +Ernest J. Jenny James L. Henderson^
<b>1965-66</b> +Ernest J. Jenny-2 Leo F. McKean	(2)+Leonard S. Schaefer (Omaha-Benson)    S/T Nick J. Schaefer Dr. R.H. Rasgorsk^	E.C. "Sam" Beights
<b>1966-67</b> James R. Hanson +William Draper	(3) +Ernest J. Jenny (Norfolk) +James M. Westphal	S/T+Rolla R. Bricker +Jack D. Webster
<b>1967-68</b> Robert R. Camp +Russell Hassmann^	(2)+Dr. Robert H. Rasgorshek (Omaha) +Alan W. Fries^ Gerald H. Loveland	S/T Dr. Harry J. Baker John W. McDonald
<b>1968-69</b> John A. Eilers Robert Gibson	(1) +Alan W. Fries (Omaha) +William Timmons^	S/T John W. McDonald Jerome J. Korisko
<b>1969-70</b> Richard E. Erickson James J. Holmberg	(2)+Russell Hassmann (Omaha) Marvin C. Kelly Larry E. Hanks	S/T John W. McDonald +Richard L. Stoehr^ Wayne D. Fickes
<b>1970-71</b> Lyle Raasch Rex A. Thompson	(2)+William Timmons (North Bend) +John G. Denninger +Milford Krajewski^	S/T +Lyle Renne +Edward H. "Ed" Kujath^ Jerome J. Kneifel

<b>1971-72</b> Herb C. G Gullotta Delmont R. Schultz	<b>(2)+Richard L. Stoehr (Lincoln)</b> Robert M. Carter Radean G. Block	<b>S/T Thomas D. Schaefer</b> Donald E. Nelson Bob Nightingale
<b>1972-73</b> Richard J. Kaplan John C. Whitehead	<b>(2)+Milford E. Krajewski (Ogallala)</b> +Lyle Renne William C. Sale	<b>S/T Firmin Q. Feltz</b> +Kenneth O. Weakland^ +Lester Sautter
<b>1973-74</b> Dale J. Andersen Kenneth McLaughlin Wilfred Meyer	<b>(3)+Edward H. Kujath (Fairbury)</b> +Fred R. Apadoca^ Paul Plummer	<b>S/T +Paul Bierbaum</b> Thomas D. Schaefer^ Delmer Lonowski
<b>1974-75</b> +Joseph J. Kish Lawrence E. Murphy Jerry Nelson	<b>(2) +Kenneth O. Weakland (Lincoln)</b> Eugene Farley Charles J. Liese	<b>S/T +S.S. Seidel, Sr.</b> Richard L. Files Ralph F. Dalstedt^
<b>1975-76</b> Frank E. Howland +S.S. Seidel, Sr. Thomas D. Schaefer-2	<b>( ) +Robert L. Billings (Omaha)</b> E. Keith Childress^ Dale Ames	<b>S/T +Fred Apocada</b> Doug Teaford Bob Lange
<b>1976-77</b> Norman W. Clark Bruce Smith +Bernell C. Shum^	<b>( ) Donald R. Ray (Grand Island)</b> Harry R. Dinnel, Jr. James C. Bishop Houston R. Kerr	<b>S/T+Milo Stites</b> +Paul Bierbaum Edwin P Linnenbrink
<b>1977-78</b> Gene Herbert Dale E. Chestnut +James D. McGinness	<b>(2) E. Keith Childress (Omaha-Cornhusker Pk)</b> James R. Hanson-2^ +Milo Stites Donald Steele	<b>S/T Norman W. Clark</b> +PG Edward H. "Ed"Kujath-2 Del Lonowski-2
<b>1978-79</b> Leo Jorgenson Jerry L. Puls Kent Felzien	<b>(5) +Fred R. Apodaca (Omaha Breakfast)</b> Ralph V. Palmer James M. Kruger Earl O. Schenck	<b>S/T +Bob Billings</b> William M. Saunders Billie J. Gangwish
<b>1979-1980</b> C. Edward Force Burt C. Foreman Bob Ferguson	<b>(13) James R. Hanson (Omaha Mid City)</b> S.T. Ralph V. Palmer Donald W. Johnson C. David Heffelbower Kenneth Stute	<b>S/T</b> Mark H. Thompkins +Newell E. "Newt" Kollath Marion Walburn
<b>1980-81</b> John R. "Bud" Lavigne Robert "Fritz" Kluge^ Leroy Erpelding	<b>(7) Thomas D. Schaefer (Lincoln)</b> S/T Jerry L. Puls David Mohler^ +J.L. McMaster Robert J. Ballweg	<b>S/T</b> Skeet Mahler +Bernell C. Shum-2 Jerry A. Nuss
<b>1981-82</b> Ronald Schilling Richard Timmerman Dan Stump	<b>(7) Ralph F. Dalstedt (McCook)</b> Emil R. Janky Jerome J. Jochum^ Vern Bollish	<b>S/T Kenneth Stute</b> E. Terry Ausenbaugh James W. Wilcox
<b>1982-83</b> Allan Woods +Donald E. Seger Ronald L. Adams	<b>(2) David M.Mohler (Omaha West)</b> +Sebastian J. "Subby" Caniglia + Thomas R. Spahn Gary F. Roubicek	<b>S/T John J. Batiato</b> Kent Stover +Donald H. Steele James Thalken, Jr.

<b>1983-84</b>	<b>(2) Jerome J. Jochum (Lincoln Eve)</b> Daniel A. James Paul G. Hartz Lamoine Meester	<b>S/T Dale Chesnut</b> John J. Battiatō^ Steve Bell James Armagost
<b>1984-85</b>	<b>(8) +Bernell Shum (Grand Island)</b> +Richard V. Showers^ Lynn E. Zabel^ Richard Schwenka Leo Ruhlman	<b>S/T Milo Stites</b> William Calta +Eugene C. Hart Charles Baue
<b>1985-86</b>	<b>(2)+Richards I. Shuman (Lincoln-Southwest)</b> John Anstey^ Ernest L. Weyeneth Ronald Gregory Thomas A. Poltack	<b>S/T Lynn Zabel</b> B. Dean Ellis Robert Ballweg-2 Marvin L. Smith
<b>1986-87</b>	<b>(3) John J. Battiato (Elkhorn-Waterloo)</b> E.L. "Mac" McCallum Larry McPhillips Russel Ropte Garnold G. Kreft	<b>S/T +Richard V. Showers</b> David E. Wilken Robert A. Grundman^
<b>1987-88</b>	<b>(3) Lynn E. Zabel (Lincoln)</b> Richard E. Jensen, Jr. Dennis Parrott Ronald A. Meyers Richard Labrayere	<b>S/T Gale E. Dunbar</b> +Harlon Hain^ Charles F. Wilson Lyle Raasch-2
<b>1988-89</b>	<b>(4)+Richard V. Showers *(Omaha)</b> <b>(3) John R. Anstey *(Omaha-Mid City)</b> Jerry Hofman Richard Dirks Gary G. Smith Marvin Smkith-2	<b>S/T John R. Anstey</b> <b>S/T +Harlon Hain</b> Lee A. Buist James Knebel Kent Whitacre
<b>1989-90</b>	<b>(6) J. Michael Allen (Aurora)</b> Karen S. Curry^ Donald Meints Steven R. Leach John Knapple	<b>S/T +Jay B. Nylander</b> Chester A. Arnett^ Roger T. Simmons^ Charlie S. Reeser
<b>1990-91</b>	<b>(3)+Harlon A. Hain (Bellevue)</b> +Gordon Gagini +PG Edward H. Kujath-4 Kurt L. Blazek Charles R. Baue-2	<b>S/T John R. Anstey</b> John M. Lang James "J.J." Johnson Kenneth J. Muchmore Allen E. Jones^
<b>1991-92</b>	<b>(2) +Chester a. "Chet" Arnett (Omaha Metro-West)</b> Donald R. Stover Ronald Jay C. William Sherman^ James Bonesteel	<b>S/T Allen E. Jones</b> Lee A. Buist-2 Thomas J. Bauman Robert A. Garrett Judith L. Andresen

<b>1992-93</b>	<b>(8) Boyd D. Stark (Alliance)</b> Douglas E. Hale Fred R. Bischoff Ronald V. Pavletich David L. Thelen^	<b>S/T Lyle Fondness</b> Cathi L. Tighe Del W. Salmen^ Wes W. Lampher Betty Totten
<b>1993-94</b>	<b>(2) C. William Sherman (Columbus)</b> Karen S.H. Fogle*-2 Robert "Fritz" Kluge-2 +Jay Nylander Steven McCoy	<b>S/T Larry Andresen</b> Steffi Swanson Dennis R. Kumm John "Jack" Yant Dr. Robert G. Diekmann
<b>1994-95</b>	<b>(4) Allen E. Jones (Omaha West)</b> Marguerite A. Hansen Marvin Shimmel +Jay B. Nylander-2 Layne D. Knoedler	<b>S/T Judith L. Andresen</b> Charles D. Mansfield^ Mark A. Mandelko Richard L. Alexander Diane P. Harrison
<b>1995-96</b>	<b>(6) Karen S. H. Curry Fogel ( )</b> +Chester A. Arnett-2 George Shada Leslie "Lynne" Nylander Thomas G. Didier	<b>S/T Steffi Swanson</b> Richard J. Quinlan^ George Ferrell Terry A. Christiansen +Gale Totten
<b>1996-97</b>	<b>(7) Roger T. Simmons (Lincoln-South)</b> Bradley D. Kuiper Dennis R. Kumm-2 Ronald L. Schilling-2 John Hawley	<b>S/T Thomas D. Schaefer</b> +Rhonda J. Wiebers Carol S. Thompson Douglas White
<b>1997-98</b>	<b>(7) +Forrest M. Kramer (Blair)</b> Paul Zamiska +PG Edward H. Kujath-5 Jeffrey L. Garnand^	<b>S/T Diane P. Harrison</b> +Vicki L. Haecke Del W. Salmen-2 ^ Ralph F. Dalstedt-2
<b>1998-99</b>	<b>(12) Robert A. Grundman (Lincoln Sunrise)</b> John Rice PG Roger T. Simmons-2 Charles F. Reeser-2	<b>S/T Del W. Salmen</b> Donald Woodhull Jeanne L. Cuda Ronald L. Olds
<b>1999-2000</b>	<b>(2) Jeffrey L. Garnand (Hastings)</b> +Gordon F. Gagini-2 Harold Chase Jay Nichol	<b>S/T Gaylea G. Sturgis</b> Donald Woodhull-2 Dennis R. Kumm-3 Randy Schneider
<b>2000-01</b>	<b>(5) Richard Quinlan (Bellevue)</b> Charles D. Mansfield-2 ^ Donald Wurm Sabrina D. Garmand	<b>S/T +Rhonda J. Wiebers</b> Richard J. Felt Doris J. Doane Ronald I. Olds-2

<b>2001-02</b>	<b>(7) Mark A. Baldwin (Ogallala)</b> PG E. Keith Childress-2 Dianne M. Nolde* Sabrina D. Garnand-2	<b>S/T Daryl A. Cisney</b> Linda A. Wheeler^ DeAnna A. Jurgens Rod Reynolds
<b>2002-03</b>	<b>(8) Charles "Chuck" Mansfield (Bellevue)</b> Bruce Jordan David McMaster Brent Lewis	<b>S/T Steffi Swanson</b> Georgia Felt Helen Griffin Charles F. Reeser-3
<b>2003-04</b>	<b>(11) David Thelen (North Platte)</b> Steffi Swanson-2 +PG Edward H. Kujath-6 Jeff Miller Charles "Chuck" Baue-3	<b>S/T Louise Hoffman</b> Russ Lang DeAnna Jurgens-2 Gary Wieners
<b>2004-05</b>	<b>(6) Gaylea G. Sturgis (Lincoln Evening)</b> Connie Mansfield PG Jerry Jochum-2 Arlen Osterbuhr	<b>S/T Robert "Bob" Wriedt</b> Emil Beyer Thomas-Bauman-2 A.W. "Butch" Loring
<b>2005-06</b>	<b>(13) Delno Salmen (Lincoln Evening)</b> Larry Rippe Burt Foreman-2 A.W. "Butch" Loring-2	<b>S/T Robert "Bob" Wriedt</b> Jerry Schultz Glenna Showalter
<b>2006-07</b>	<b>(7) Robert "Bob" Wriedt* (Wayne)</b> Fred B. Uhe Marvin Shimmel-2 Ardis Moody^ Jeff Oeltjen	<b>S/T Dale L. Beckmann</b> Kathy Vomaka Burt Foreman-3 Ronald Schilling-5 Daryl Cisney-3
<b>2007-08</b>	<b>(27) Robert "Fritz" Kluge (Fairbury)</b> Melissa Vanek Marvin Shimmel-3 Margaret A. Simmons-2 PG David Thelen-3	<b>S/T Cynthia Von Fange</b> +Vicki Haeke-2(2) Ronald Schilling-6 Kathleen Mueller Herb Johnson
<b>2008-09</b>	<b>(2) Ardis Moody (Lincoln West)</b> Russell Zeeb^ +PG Edward H. Kujath-7 Ed Sheen	<b>S/T Gaylea G. Stugis</b> Cynthia Von Fange-2 Kathleen Mueller-2 David Lawler
<b>2009-10</b>	<b>(2) Mark Claussen (Norfolk Noon)</b> Melissa Vanek-2 Marvin Shimmel-4 Ed Sheen	<b>S/T Gaylea G. Stugis</b> Gary Nissen +Mary Bisbee Herb Johnson-2
<b>2010-11</b>	<b>(2) Russell Zeeb (Gretna)</b> Curtis Range Judith Conway Kluge^	<b>S/T Gaylea G. Stugis</b> +PG Robert "Bob" Wriedt*-2 Kellie Price

<b>2011-12</b>	<b>(24) R.W. "Dick" Raasch * (Omaha-Breakfast)</b> Shellie Zeeb Lora Kander-2 Harry Eckerson	<b>S/T Sue Penner</b> Lori Blum Diane Siefkes^ Daryl Cisney-4
<b>2012-13</b>	<b>(2) Al Penner (Omaha Miracle Hills)</b> Corinne Wastell-2 Nels Sorensen, Jr. Marge Melroy-4^	<b>S/T Sue Penner</b> Lori Blum-2 Mary Lou Anderson Daryl Cisney-5
<b>2013-14</b>	<b>(3) Diane Siefkes (Lincoln Sunrise)</b> Linda Wheeler-2^ Marvin Shimmel-5 Jeffrey Knapp	<b>S/T Steffi Swanson</b> Curtis Rainge-2 Thomas Morrissey Steven Marlow
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>Marge Melroy (Holdrege)</b> Linda Wheeler-3 PG Robert "Fritz" Kluge-3	<b>S/T Nels Sorensen, Jr.</b> Doug Palank-2 Jennifer Kimmons Steven Marlow-2
<b>2015-16</b>	<b>(8) Marvin Wastell * (Omaha Miracle Hills)</b> Beryle Lantz^ Kerianne S. Kluge Becky Rehtus	<b>Sec. Sandra Allen</b> <b>Treasurer Curtis Huston</b> Robert Hahn Jeremy Williams PG David Thelen-4^
<b>2016-17</b>	<b>(6) Judith Conway Kluge (Nebraska City)</b> Ron Neiderhaus Dr. Jacob May Rod Reynolds-2	<b>Sec. Mary Lou Anderson</b> <b>Treas. Curtis Houston</b> Beryle Lantz-2^ Doug Andersen Michael "Lefty" Loefler
<b>2017-18</b>	<b>(4) Les Dome (Omaha)</b> Marguerite Hanson-3 Dr. Jacob May-2	<b>Sec. Mary Lou Andersen</b> <b>Treas. Ardis Moody</b> Charlene Boyd Angela Tintori Maureen "Mo" Hunsberger
<b>2018-19</b>	<b>(3) Beryle Lantz (Omaha Southwest)</b> Ronald Nelson Neal Deremer	<b>Sec. Rochelle Eigsti</b> <b>Treas. Ardis Moody</b> Melissa Masters PG David Thelen-5^
<b>2019-20</b>	<b>(6) Linda Wheeler (Blair)</b> Wendy Townsend Marvin Shimmel-6 PG Dave Thelen-5^	<b>S/T Dale Beckmann</b> Ron Nelson-2 Betty Totten-2
<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>(1) Sandra Allen (Omaha North)</b> Carla Gries Marvin Shimmel-7 David Thelen-6^	<b>Sec. Linda Leatherman</b> <b>Treas. Curtis Huston</b> Robert Karcher Margaret Reynolds

**+ Deceased**

**-3 Times served as Lt. Governor**

**^ Became Governor**

**# Number of years between first term Lt. Governor and Governor**

**• Distinguished Governor or Lieutenant Governor**

# **OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL & OPTIMIST FOUNDATION**

**4494 LINDELL BOULEVARD  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63108  
341-371-6000  
800-500-8130**

**Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

## **Contact A Department**

Awards (awards@optimist.org) .....	263
Communications (communications@optimist.org) .....	235
Executive Director (executiveoffice@optimist.org) .....	200
Finance and Administration (finance@optimist.org) .....	202
Graphics (graphics@optimist.org) .....	235
International Convention (convention@optimist.org) .....	205
International Office (headquarters@optimist.org) .....	300
International Programs (programs@optimist.org) .....	218
Junior Optimist Clubs (youthclubs@optimist.org) .....	218
Leadership/Personal Development (leadership@optimist.org) .....	261
Marketing (marketing@optimist.org) .....	235
Meetings and Travel (travel@optimist.org) .....	221
Member Services (membership@optimist.org) .....	214, 226 or 247
New Club Building (newclub@optimist.org) .....	227
Optimist Junior Golf (golf@optimist.org) .....	207

## **FOUNDATION**

Foundation Executive Director .....	203
Senior Director of Donor Services .....	237
Donor Services Coordinator .....	204
Administrative Assistant .....	249

**[www.OIFoundation.org](http://www.OIFoundation.org)**

**email: [foundation@oifoundation.org](mailto:foundation@oifoundation.org)**

## **OPTIMIST SUPPLY VENDOR**

Shumsky's ..... 877-678-2582

**[optimist@shumsky.com](mailto:optimist@shumsky.com)**

# **OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM FOR CLUBS AND DISTRICTS**

## **CLUBS**

### Honor Club

- Service: Complete three or more service projects during the Optimist year
- Community: Recognize a club member or local community individual  
Grow Club by Net of +3 in membership  
Conduct a Membership Recruitment/Drive (i.e.NOW) Program
- Charitable: Appoint a Club Foundation Representative  
Make a non-restricted contribution to the OIF of at least \$100
- Education: Club President, Club President-Elect (or two Designees) attend District Convention (or two other District meetings/conferences)  
Club Foundation Representative completes the CFR training on the Optimist International Learning System  
Club President Completes the Club President training on the Optimist International Learning System  
Club Secretary/Treasurer completes the Club SIT training on the Optimist International Learning Management System
- Administrative: Complete the Club Pride Report and Club Officer Elect Form  
Be current on District and OI Dues and Fees  
Club Bylaws to be in compliance with Standard Club Bylaws

### Distinguished Club

Meet Honor Club Criteria plus one of the following:

- Community: Add Net+15\* in membership OR Charter one or more new Clubs  
OR  
Increase by Net +8 and charter two or more JOI Clubs (the +3 required for Honor Club is included in the +15 or the +8 required for Distinguished Club)

## **HONOR DISTRICT (Governor)**

- Community: Grow District by Net +10 in membership
  - Charter one or more new adult Clubs (JOI Clubs do not fulfill this requirement)
- Charitable: 75% of Clubs appoint a Club Foundation Representative
  - \$7500 or more raised in Unrestricted Funds on behalf of the District
- Education: 50% of Club Presidents take Club Presidents Training on the Optimist International Learning Management System in/for Optimist year  
50% of Club Secretary/Treasurers take CST Training on the Optimist International Learning Management System in/for Optimist year  
50% of Club Foundation Reps take CFR Training on the Optimist International Learning Management System in/for Optimist year
- Administrative: All reports filed with Optimist International as required  
All clubs current on District and OI Dues by September 30