



1st Quarter Conference in Gettysburg, Pa. Nov.1-3 2024



Installation of new Officers – VP Tom Shearer.



Currently 2024-2025 International VP-Designate for the Mid-Atlantic Region, Tom has been continually involved in this organization since 1994, He is a member of the OI Foundation’s Harrison Society. He has built three clubs and currently is a member of two clubs. He has provided technology to stream club and district meetings online.

Cherry Hill Optimist Club

Like to welcome newest member Shelia Hughes



local Patapsco HS was super spectacular. I know a lot of hard work and planning went into this. Thank you to all for a beautiful evening



Cherry Hill Optimist Club

Will be doing Shop with a Cop and will have their **Annual Bull Roast on February 15 2025.**

Optimist Club of Dundalk

The 75th Optimist Anniversary was a huge success and beautifully put together and presented. The Sparrows point country club staff was on point, food was delish, the 75th cake out of this world, the table decorations, just beautiful, the politicians were funny, the entertainment was perfect, performances by our



Dawn and Irene visited Battle Monument School and dropped off 32 Hat and scarf sets, 32 other hats and about 75 pairs of socks. The hats and scarfs were made by the crochet club and the socks were donated by Soup For the Soul.



Breakfast with Sants and the Grinch



Fort Smallwood Optimist Club
They had a Crab Raffle and will be doing Shop with a Cop. This morning was filled with joy and holiday spirit at the 21st annual Shop with a Cop event in Pasadena!



Kent Island Optimist
11 years with Shop with a Hero.



Optimist Club of Frederick



FOP 91 donated a \$1,000 for Shop with a COP.



\$5,000 donation is always welcome.
Raised money for Shop with a Hero, great idea...



Activities with the kids



Optimist Club of CalvertCop 🎁🚓

On Saturday, Dec. 7, the **Calvert County Sheriff's Office** (CCSO), joined by Troopers from the **Maryland State Police**(MSP), **Prince George's County Police Department**(PGPD), **Maryland Department of Natural Resources** (DNR), and the **Office of the Maryland State Fire Marshal**, brought holiday cheer to our community during the 18th Annual Calvert Shop with a Cop event.



Earlier this month, we teamed up with **Constellation** to give away brand new bikes and helmets to 100 children. The bikes, assembled earlier this year by Constellation volunteers, were supplied by **Free Bikes 4 Kids Maryland**.



The Optimist Club of Calvert has been recognizing select high school seniors as the “outstanding youth” of the county for the last 55 years. Please join us and the Optimist Club of Solomon’s in congratulating the Seniors chosen by Huntingtown High School



Optimist Club of Calvert
Annual Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale
 Safeway Parking Lot, Prince Frederick

Fresh Fraser Fir Christmas Trees 5' to 11'

Tree Lot Hours:
 Wednesday - Sunday 9 am - 9 pm
 Monday - Tuesday - CLOSED
 Until we sell out!

Proceeds Benefit Local Youth Organizations and Activities including:
 College & Career Scholarships, Youth Appreciation Week
 Essay & Oratorical Contests, Rising Stars in Career/Tech Education
 Trunk or Treat, Santa Night, Project Graduation

Visit us online at www.CalvertOptimists.org
 OptimistClubofCalvert

Solomons Optimist Club Thank you to **The Optimist Club of Solomons** for having our Junior Optimist Club (JOI) participate in this year’s Optimist Club tree sales. Thank you to our youth who braved the cold weather to help out! 🌲🌲



A great turnout for our annual visit with Santa. Crafts, food, gifts and a photo with the big guy himself!



Hollywood Leonardtown Optimist Club

Hollywood Leonardtown did their annual Pumpkin Patch

Clements Cuties had a golf tournament for kids with Cancer, Hollywood Leonardtown did the food for 175 people. Great crowd came out with 38 teams of 4





Oyster Festival in Southern Md

Mechanicsville, 7th District,
St.Maries and Hollywood all
cooked for this event along with
many other venders



Jay Quade and Jonny(Boots)
Quade made the Cream of Crab
from their Mom's receipe.Kat
Cecil made the Oyster Stew.

Christmas trees was a big
success.





They also did Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Baskets to the families with kids that had cancer.

Mechanicsville Optimist Club had an Installation for Mechanicsville and Hollywood



Shop with a Cop in St Mary's County. All the Optimist clubs, Mechanicsville Optimist Club, Junior Optimist of Mechanicsville, 7th District Optimist Club, Lexington Park St. Maries Optimist Club, and Hollywood Leonardtown Optimist Club came together to make this happen. They

served breakfast for 100 kids and officers.

December 21, the club provided 4 families in need from our community with Christmas presents, dinner supplies, and extra groceries.



Great year selling trees

7th District Optimist Club

Turkey SHOOT
AND OYSTER SCALD

7TH DISTRICT OPTIMIST PARK
21860 COLTON POINT RD
BUSHWOOD, MD

11 AM SIGN UP TIME 12 PM START TIME

 24 NOV 2024
15 DEC 2024
19 JAN 2025
9 FEB 2025
9 MAR 2025

KID'S SHOOT!
CASH SHOOT!
HOT DOGS!
CURL!
COLD DRINKS!

www.facebook.com/7doptimist
www.7thdistrictoptimist.org

Fun evening celebrating the **7th District Optimist Club** at

their 57th Annual Installation of Officers. Congratulations to President Smitty Smith and all the officers and members! Saw their newest member **Josh Guy** and Special Guest Speaker **State's Attorney Jaymi Sterling!** New President, Ronald "Smitty" Smith.



7 District joined with clubs of Zone 4 for Shop with a Cop.





Over 20 years ago, a prosecutor (Joe Stanalonis) and a Deputy Sheriff (Bill Raddatz), both members of the **7th District Optimist Club** started this little program called "Shop with a Cop" to help under-privileged kids at Christmas time and for back-to-school.



Salisbury Optimist Club
Salisbury Optimist Club
October 9, 2024 ·

Help us welcome our 2024 -
2025 Optimist Board!

President: Michelle Pryor
1st Vice President: Jim Walling

2nd Vice President: Mike DeFiore

1st VP Director: Jason Edwards

He is a member of the OI Foundation's Harrison Society. He has built three clubs and currently is a member of two clubs. He has provided technology to stream club and district meetings online.

2nd VP Director: Lynne Bratten

Treasurer: Jason Curtin

Secretary: Erin Smith

Sgt at Arms: Andrew Momme

Scribe: Patty DeFiore

Past President: Todd Smith

Officers were installed at the

end of last month at our annual installation dinner (with Jason E. virtually joining from Cabo!).

Congratulations to Andrew Momme, 2023 Optimist of the Year, and Sally Walling, our inaugural Optimist Volunteer Award winner and "Opti-Mrs. Extraordinaire."

Additionally, we celebrated the 90th birthday of long-time member Elwood Trader.

What a great year to be an



Congratulations to DFC P. Brown on receiving the Optimist Respect for Law Program Award. The **Salisbury Optimist Club** recognizes outstanding Officers from local Law Enforcement Agencies each year. DFC Brown was nominated for this award by his supervisors based on his exemplary performance in his duties and service to the citizens of Wicomico County. (Pictured from L-R: Captain Wiersberg, DFC Brown, and Sgt Phillips)

Ocean City Berlin Club

Ocean City Berlin Optimist Club donated \$2,500 to the Seaside Christian Academy playground addition for their Pre-Kindergarteners. Pictured below (l-r): Presenting the check from the Optimists is the Oratorical and Visual Arts Contest Chairperson Sharon Sorrentino. Accepting the check is the Seaside Christian Academy Parent Teacher Fellowship President (PTF) Kara Waggoner and her daughter Kaila! Seaside made the ornaments that decorated the Ocean Pines Christmas Tree!

President, Christina Dolomount-Brown, decorating one of the Optimist Christmas Trees for the **Ocean Pines Community Center** tree lighting ceremony! Thank you to our local schools for making the decorations! 🌲



The **Ocean City Berlin Optimist Club** members ride the **North Bay Marina Inc.** pontoon being raffled off at the “2025 Ocean City Boat Show” in the “Ocean City Christmas Parade”. Proceeds from the the Optimist sponsored, and operated, Boat Show fund College Scholarships for graduating seniors at the the 3 **Worcester County Public Schools MD** high schools.

Over 2.3 million dollars have been given out over the local

club’s 50+ years in operation! Last year \$195,000 in scholarships were awarded!! Thank you Optimists and North Bay Marina! And a big thanks to Joe and Shamus Engh from North Bay for driving the boat in the parade!!



Optimist Club of Sussex County

The JOI Club of Millsboro Middle, sponsored by Sussex optimist, volunteered Thanksgiving morning serving dinner to the less fortunate at a local church. These kids showed up and worked hard! Some even stayed and helped with the dreaded cleanup!



Annapolis Optimist Club
Stop by the [Annapolis Optimist Club](#) tent downtown at the Boat Shows for some yummy food. We'll be here for both Boat Shows.



November 5, 2024 --At last night's meeting we had the pleasure of meeting with Jonathan Freeman, public relations director, of Children's Beach House in Lewes. Wow! Great things are happening there!



Annapolis Club sponsored and assisted with the gifts and our crews delivered the gifts on a special sled with lights and sirens

The Junior Optimist Club of MMS, sponsored by Sussex County, hosted a school-wide food drive collection. We donated all items to the DE Food Bank. These kids are committed to making a difference in their community!





Arundel County Sheriff's Office

The 2024 Shop with a Cop was an incredible success! A huge shoutout to Sergeant Costin for coordinating our involvement in this amazing event year after year! We also want to thank Sergeant Cogle, Corporal Hines, Deputy Young, Deputy Flores, and Deputy McCleave for taking time out of their busy schedules to brighten a child's day! Your dedication and kindness truly made a difference! Thank you to

Annapolis Optimist Club Target Annapolis Outback Steakhouse for making this yearly event possible



Hereford Optimist Club

**Youth Appreciation
11/26/2024**

The club honored 6 youth, 2 from each school, Hereford

Middle, Hereford High, and Manchester High. After dinner, school counselors introduced the students and their accomplishments. Leadership and volunteer hours and commitments were emphasized. A certificate, gift card, Optimist Creed, and application were given to each student. Brady Bonney, a senior from Manchester, and HOBY 2023, is class president, National Honor Society,

Varsity soccer, Camp Invention intern, to name a few. He also works at Piney Branch Golf Club. Through HOBY, he has completed 100+ hours of service and received the President's Volunteer Service Award in the 12 months following his HOBY seminar.



Incredibly proud of our favorite teenagers on their awards tonight! Thank you, [Hereford Optimist Club](#) for honoring local youths!

Arrow (MD) was honored to support the [Baltimore County Police Department](#) as they teamed up with local Optimist Clubs and other incredible organizations for the 23rd Annual Shop with a Cop event!





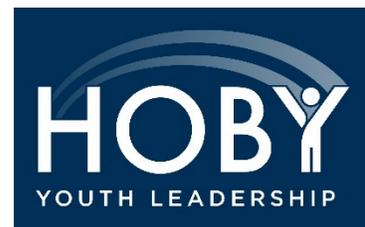
Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club

Celebrating Greater Jacksonville Optimist Club 40th anniversary. So great to see [Tricia Lane-Forster](#) with her son, Jin, and also [Pam McCollum](#) Greater Jacksonville Optimists

40th Anniversary Dinner. We celebrated charter members with certificates, gave \$300 to Chief Dundas of the Jacksonville Volunteer Fire Company, listened to 2 HOBY Fallston High School students talk about their experiences, and enjoyed good meals at Strapasta.



Hugh O'Brian Youth
HOBY MD
June 5-8, 2025
Towson University. It



was so wonderful to see MDSD Optimists at the 1st conference in Gettysburg. I hope those attending enjoyed the HOBY

notebooks I distributed. I saw folks already using them! Thank you for putting HOBY MD in your budgets this year. HOBY Alumna Samatha (Sam) McDanal from Chopticon HS will speak at the 2nd conference in California, MD about her HOBY experience last year and her accomplishments since June.

The facts:

- ❖ 250+ sophomores planning to attend
- ❖ 4 day overnight at Towson University
- ❖ Nearly 100 Alumni volunteers
- ❖ Volunteer service opportunity increased
- ❖ Leadership topics – personal, group, community
- ❖ Networking – career, education, volunteerism

Thank you for sponsoring students, 7th District for our Saturday night desserts, and Gov. Colleen Coombs for attending the Networking session at HOBY. I can speak at your meeting and/or recruit a HOBY t

Thank you all for your continued support since 1996.

Carol Applegate HOBY 410-746-0150

cappleg1@retiree.jh.edu

Club is working their annual fundraiser: Stock Market Challenge. Thank you to all who are participating.

Loch Raven Club
Loch Raven Optimist Club
Wreaths across America at
Parkwood Cemetery.



**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH CONTESTS 2024-2025**

Sponsored by
the Optimist Club of Mechanicsville

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Being elected HOBY, the Optimist International President, is a 2024 program of Optimist International. This contest is designed to give young people a unique experience in public speaking and provide them with an opportunity to contribute to a global change movement with a chance to win up to \$2,000 at the World Championship level.

Open to all ages 13-19. Open to all genders.

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Photo: **How Optimist Has Guided Me Through Tough Times**

Application and complete rules can be found at: https://www.optimist.org/documents/2024/programs/24-25_Oratorical_Application.pdf

Send completed entry form to MechanicsvilleOptimist@yahoo.com by February 15, 2025.

Local Club and/or Zone competition date and location will be determined after February 15th. District contest will be held April 26, 2025 in Ocean City, MD.

ESSAY CONTEST

The Essay Contest is sponsored by Optimist International and is open to all ages 13-19. The contest is designed to give young people a unique experience in writing and provide them with an opportunity to contribute to a global change movement with a chance to win up to \$2,000 at the World Championship level.

Open to all ages 13-19. Open to all genders.

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Application and complete rules can be found at: https://www.optimist.org/documents/2024/programs/24-25_Essay_Application.pdf
Due Date: January 31, 2025

Where: Send completed essay and entry form to MechanicsvilleOptimist@yahoo.com

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**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

Dime-A-Day

Optimist International and Optimist International Foundations request all their respective organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the mission of Optimist International and its mission.

When Members and Clubs make a commitment to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with their gift, supporting Optimist International and its mission.

With just one dime a day you can become part of the movement of "Giving Optimist Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who make what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.00 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

Building a future where every kid counts
Can you spare a dime a day?

Q Sign me up Please contact me at _____ number. Check me Q Yes Q No Q Other _____

Account # _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____ Identify Code _____

Q Sign me up Please deduct \$10.00 per month from my checking account.

Check my checking number _____ (Please include a copy of a voided check)

Name _____ (Print)
Club Number _____ Member Number _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing. • Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing. • P.O. Box 102124 • St. Louis, MO 63114

2nd Quarter Conference
 January 31 - February 2, 2025
 Country Inn & Suites
 44941 Worth Lane
 California, Maryland

3rd Quarter Conference
 Oratorical Contest
 April 25-27, 2025
 The Grand Hotel
 2100 N. Baltimore Ave
 Ocean City, Maryland



**Please join us as we
 Plan, Learn, Engage,
 Support & Recharge**

**Optimist International
 Annual Convention**
 June 29 - July 2, 2025

St. Louis Union Station
 1820 Market Street
 St. Louis, Missouri

**4th Quarter Conference/
 MDSD Atlantic Central
 Joint Convention**
 August 15-17, 2025

Hilton Garden Inn
 1061 York Street
 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

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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.

