

Info Column

Items welcomed for future newsletters. If you have something to contribute, send along to your Editor Rick Posson: rick.posson@att.net

Club website www.bocindy.com

District website: www.indianaoptimist.org

International website: www.optimist.org

<u>Governor:</u> Kent Reyling

Lt. Governor Zone 1:

Walt Willms

Officers 2022/23

President Greg Kuhn

Vice-President Alex Overway

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Past President: Abby Weber

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Dave Best Rick Posson Glenn Shay Walt Willms

<u>January</u> <u>Birthdays</u>



Ken Loudenback January 26th John Totty January 26th

Presidents Corner

What if there wasn't a virgin birth? What if the angels didn't appear to Shepherds in the field? What if there wasn't a star that magically guided travelers to a small town in the middle east?

Would there be crusades and inquisitions? And each year there has been a solstice. And for over one hundred years, Optimists have helped children in the community. We have the power within us to change the world. We have the power to help children in our community. All that we need is the will and collective effort. Choose Optimism and live the creed.

Sincerely,

Greg Kuhn President

Before my surgery, the anesthesiologist offered to knock me out with gas or a boat paddle...

It was an ether/oar situation.

NURSE CAME IN AND SAID DOC, THERE'S A MAN IN THE WAITING ROOM WHO THINKS HE'S INVISIBLE, WHAT SHOULD I TELL HIM? THE DOCTOR SAID TELL HIM I CAN'T SEE HIM TODAY.

Astronomers got tired of watching the moon go round the earth for 24 hours.

So they decided to call it a day.

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself-

To be so strong that nothing can disturb To talk health, happiness your peace of mind.

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.

Just a Quickie . . .

Two guys walk into a bar and order lunch.

"What brings you guys in today?" the bartender asks.

"I guess you haven't heard yet. The mayor passed a law yesterday to try to help out local restaurants during Covid-19. All adult males are required to go and eat lunch out with their best male friends at least once a week," one of the guys answers the bartender.

"Well it's not a law really," the other guy corrects him. "It's more of a mandate."



The Downtown Club meets at the Murat Shrine Temple dining room at 510 N. New Jersey Street on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 11:30 a.m.



Next meetings: January 5, 2023 January 19, 2023

Officers

Betsy Burke, President Ken Loudenback, Vice President Charles Curry, Secretary-Treasurer Bob Brafford, Sargent-at-arms

Board of Directors

Vally Allen Bob Brafford Doug Brown Ken Koons

Upcoming Events

Jan. 5 Regular Club meeting Jan. 14 - Super Zone meeting in Plainfield Jan. 14 - Optimist Night at the Indy Fuel Game Jan. 19 - Regular Club meeting Feb. 1 Essays submitted to Bob Brafford June 20 - Indians Game (Tuesday)

The Bells Were Ringing

Big THANKS to our club members and friends who participated in this year's Salvation Army Bell Ringing. These volunteers were Angela Bridge and her co-worker Tammie Carter, Ken Koons, Betsy Burke, Ken Loudenback, Doug Brown, (who did a great job singing "Jingle Bells"), Vally Allen, Charley Koehler, Greg Kuhn, Bob Brafford and Jack Huter!

Our team of volunteers always look forward to the Holiday Season and assisting with the Bell Ringing fund raiser. We thank the Salvation Army for all the good work they do in our Indianapolis community.



Bell ringers I to r – Jack Huter, Bob Brafford and Greg Kuhn

Essay Contest Reminder

All entries for the Essay Contest are due to be submitted to Bob Brafford no later than February 1st.

President's Comments

"We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day." (Edith Lovejoy Pierce) It's difficult to believe that 2023 has arrived, and we have the opportunity to start a new chapter in our lives and to spread optimism along the way.

Members of the Downtown Club finished the year on a happy note. We were able to support children and families by ringing the bell for the Salvation Army at Circle Center mall on Wednesday, December 14. Special thanks to Vally Allen for organizing this annual event. Thank you to members who were able to help that afternoon. (Pictured below, Optimists Ken Loudenback and Doug Brown.)



In the new year, we anticipate several important events. Members are encouraged to attend the Super Zone meeting in Plainfield on January 14th. We hope to attend an Indy Fuel game on the evening of the 14th. The Sunrise Club is sponsoring "Optimist Day at the Indy Fuel Game" as a fundraiser for their Club.

Bob Brafford is organizing our Club's Essay Contest. This year's prompt is, "Who Is An Everyday Hero That Brings Out the Optimist in You?" Essays must be turned in by February 1. If you know a writer under the age of 19 who is interested in submitting an essay, please contact Bob at

rrb1229@comcast.net for additional info. (You may also check the Optimist International website for specific information on requirements and due dates.)

The theme for this year's Oratorical Contest is "Discovering the Optimism Within Me." Greg Kuhn is spearheading this contest for both the Breakfast Club and the Downtown Club. His contact info is gakuhn@aol.com. I wish you a very Happy New Year! As Frank Sinatra used to say, "The best is yet to come." Make this year the year that you:

- talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet
- make all your friends feel that there is something in them
- look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true
- think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best

Be an Optimist!

Happy New Year!

Betsy Burke President

Some Fun Cartoon Funnies







I relabeled all of the jars in my wife's spice rack. I'm not in trouble yet....but the thyme is cumin.

A Couple of More Funny Ones...

For a weekend break, three old college buddies go down to Tijuana, Mexico to enjoy a reunion.

Well, they hadn't seen each other for quite a few years so the stories were long, the laughs were loud and the booze really did flow that night.

They had such a good time, they all woke up the following morning and found themselves in jail.

None of them could remember anything. However, within a couple of hours, they're all sentenced to be executed the following day.

The following morning they're all escorted to death row, where Bill, the first of the group is strapped into the electric chair. Bill's asked if he'd like to say any words.

"Sure," Bill responds. "I'm from the Catholic University of America and I believe in the power of almighty God. I am innocent and God will intervene."

The executioner throws the switch but nothing happens.

Well, the prison staff can't believe this turn of events. They beg Bill's forgiveness and release him.

Next up for the chair is Gary. He's strapped in and once again he's offered the opportunity to say something.

"Well, I'm from Harvard School of Law" says Gary, "and I believe that the power of natural justice will intervene because I'm innocent."

Once again, the executioner throws the switch but nothing happens.

Again, the prison staff can't believe this turn of events. They beg Gary's forgiveness and release him.

Finally, Mike's strapped into the chair and once again he's offered the opportunity to say something.

"Well," says Mike. "I have a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and I can tell you now, you won't be executing anyone if you don't plug this thing in."

A blonde gets a job as a physical

education teacher of 16-year-olds.

She notices a boy at the end of the

field standing alone, while all the

other kids are running around

having fun kicking a ball.

She takes pity on him and decides o speak to him.

"Are you ok?" she asks.

"Yes," he replies.

"You can go and play with the other

kids you know," she says.

"No, it's probably best I stay here," he says.

"Why's that sweetie?" says the blonde.

The boy looks at her incredulously and says, "because I'm the goalie!"