



Your BOCI Breakfast Bugle and Your Downtown Club Diner News

November, 2021



Breakfast Optimist Club & Indianapolis Optimist Club of Indianapolis
Serving the Youth of Indianapolis

The Breakfast Optimist Club of Indianapolis

Join us every 2nd and 4th Mon. Evenings - 6:30 PM



1390 Keystone Way S, Carmel

November Meetings:

November 8th: TBA

November 22nd: TBA

Upcoming Events:

1st Quarter Conference - November 13th, Holiday Inn, Columbus, In

Quote of the Month

Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier. - Colin Powell



Greg Kuhn and wife made the TV Broadcast Sunday



New Club Meeting Location

Our new meeting place will now be the MCL in Carmel, located at 1390 Keystone Way S in Merchants Square.

A message from Mike

Hello Fellow Optimists, I am once again honored to serve as your Governor of the Indiana South District and look forward to seeing many of you at the 1st Quarter Conference in Columbus. Columbus is filled with



tremendous architecture, dining, and shopping. Make a weekend of it along with attending the

conference. For those of you coming in on Friday night, we will be dining at the Upland Columbus Pump House at 5:30. Check out their website. We will be privileged to have with us the Vice-president of the Middle America Region, Lister Florence from Rolla, Missouri. I know he will have an inspiring message for us as Optimists. Since we will be holding our conference two days after Veteran's Day, the theme for the conference is "Celebrate the Red, White, and Blue-Wear Your Patriotic Attire." Come dressed in something patriotic and honor our veterans and our country. Let's kick off the new year having a great time together by sharing our friendship, fellowship, and Optimism with one another. See you in Columbus.

Governor Mike

Our Prez has First Child

Welcome to the world sweet Sterling! You made quite the entrance 11 days early but we are so happy to get even more time with you! Born on October 8th at 7:02pm.



Weighing in at 7lbs 9ozs and standing 20 inches tall. You demanded a 28-hour labor but you were worth every second. Congrats to Abby and Grant!

New OI Exec

Optimist International is proud to introduce our new executive director, Cheryl Brenn. Cheryl comes to Optimist after 14 years with Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY), a global youth leadership organization where she served in multiple capacities, including Chief International Programs Officer. Canada."

"With her extensive background in nonprofit work and optimistic enthusiasm, I am confident that I am leaving this position and Optimist International in good hands" Benny Ellerbe said of Brenn in a statement before his retirement in September 2021.



## Info Column

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

Club website  
[www.bocindy.com](http://www.bocindy.com)

District website:  
[www.indianaoptimist.org](http://www.indianaoptimist.org)

International website:  
[www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org)

Governor:  
Mike Novak

Lt. Governor Zone 1:  
Walt Willms

### Officers 2021/22

**President**  
Abby Weber

**Vice-President**  
Greg Kuhn

**Secretary / Treasurer:**  
Kathy Underwood

**Past President:**  
Larry Darling - RIP

### Directors

**Dave Best**  
**Alex Overway**  
**Rick Posson**  
**Grant Weber**  
**Walt Willms**



## Presidents Corner

I am so excited to share that Grant and I welcomed Sterling Weber to our family on October 8th!

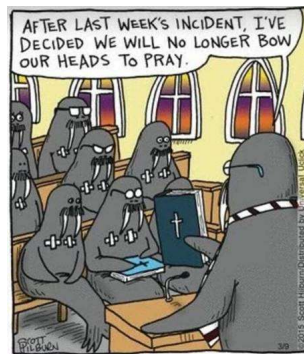
She has been an absolute joy and we cannot wait to bring her along to her first Optimist meeting! We will be focusing on our family during the holiday season, but please expect Grant and me to be back at meetings with the start of the new year (and we'll have our baby optimist with us).

During the next couple of meetings, I'd like to see if we can find a way to help a family or group of people during the holiday season, either with donations, or some other form of assistance.

I am sure someone will have a good contact to find a family in need and we can spread some optimist cheer!

If you have any other opportunities for us to reach out to the community over the holidays please share them with the group so we can all participate!

**President**  
**Abby Weber**



HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE YMCA	
(Please check one)	
Television	Online
Radio	Drove By
Ad in paper	Family/Friend
Postcard	Other <i>village People</i>
Return Member	Insurance
Email	Billboard

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

EFT INFORMATION  
Payment Method (please check)

## 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 quick one . . .**

Fred Gibbs was in his early 60's, retired and had started a second career in catering. However, he just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 2, 3, 5 minutes late. However, he was a good worker, really clever, so the owner was in a quandary about how to deal with it.

Finally, one day he called Steve into the office for a talk. Fred, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a top-class job, but you're being late so often is quite a worry.

'Yes, I realize that, sir, and I am working on it.' replied Fred.

'I'm pleased to hear that; you are a team player. It's odd though, you're coming in late. I know you're retired from the Royal Navy. What did they say if you came in late there?'

'They said, "Good morning, Admiral".'

# Downtown Club News

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, Mike Novak, District Governor, is presenting Bob Brafford



with Honor Club awards for the 2018-19 year when

Bob was president. Due to some supply issues, scheduling conflicts and, eventually, Covid-19 restrictions, he was unable to present the awards until now. We had, among other qualifications, a net of plus 5 members that year.

## Back to the Shrine Club

The Murat Shrine Club is once again the home of the Downtown Club. The redecorated Oasis Lounge is the new meeting place for the foreseeable future.



November meeting dates are the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Greg Kuhn will honor veterans on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Officers

Greg Kuhn, President  
Ken Loudenback, Vice President  
Charles Curry, Secretary-Treasurer  
Bob Brafford, Sargent-at-arms

### Board of Directors

Bob Brafford 2 years  
Betsy Burke 2 years  
Ken Koons 2 years  
Charley Koehler 1 year

## Optimist Night at the Indians' Game

On a perfect night for baseball, with warm temperatures and a nice breeze, 65 fans attended the 2021 Optimist Night at the Indians game October 20<sup>th</sup> at beautiful Victory Field. They were not disappointed! In a game highlighted by 8 home runs, the home team Indians won a very tight game by the score of 12-11. It was dollar night for hot dogs, chips, cracker jack, etc., and many hot dogs were enjoyed by our group

Special thanks go to Ken Loudenback, Vally Allen and Greg Kuhn who each ordered large groups of tickets.

In addition to the social aspect of this outing, the Downtown Optimist Club benefitted from this social event/small fundraiser by over \$450. My thanks to all who ordered tickets and attended. We hope to have even more join us in 2022!  
Bob Brafford, Event Chairman

## Pumpkin Caper

It's October and we're back on schedule on track with the annual Pumpkin Caper! Each fall members of the Optimist Club deliver pumpkins to local agencies for their clients to enjoy. Breakfast Club and Downtown Indy Club members and friends met at Kroger (65<sup>th</sup> and Keystone Avenue) to pick up Pumpkins on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

This year we delivered pumpkins to the children's wing at Community North Hospital, Hawthorne Center, Neurology Diagnostic Institute, Concord Center, Copper Trace Senior Living, Noble of Indiana, Wheeler Boys/Girls Clubs, and Easter Seals.

Special thanks to Kroger for assisting us with pricing and loading of over 300 pumpkins! Children and adults alike were cheered when receiving their pumpkins to carve, paint, or enjoy as is!



Thank you to Optimist Vally Allen for organizing this traditional event this fall!

Participating Club members: Alex Overway, Vally Allen, Greg Kuhn, Bob Brafford, Tish Brafford, Ken Kolmerton, Ken Koons, Ken Loudenback, and Betsy Burke

## President's Comments

Dear Fellow Optimists,

Our new year has begun. I am addressing both the Indianapolis Club and the Breakfast club members as we face of our current reality.

I am the President of the Indianapolis Club and Vice President of the Breakfast Club. (We wish Breakfast Club President Abby Weber and her husband Grant well with their new baby, and look forward to her return).

We have a small number of dedicated members at both clubs and we need to work together to thrive. Death and burnout will lead to the demise of both clubs as effective service organizations if we don't change our operating models.

My personal perspective is that the current leadership burden falling on the same officers and directors is unsustainable. One possible course is to find enough new members for each club to flourish. Each of us needs to try to recruit new members. A second alternative is for existing members to attend meetings and get involved in projects. If you are contacted in the near future by a member and asked to help in some way, please give this request your full consideration. Meanwhile, our goal this year is to expand the number of projects we can complete by drawing on the people and resources of both clubs.

The key to expanding projects is having dedicated volunteers to act as the "chair" of a committee whether elected or not. We have seen early success so far this year with the Pumpkin Caper and the food bank.

At the very least, there are meeting opportunities in the evening as well as noon time twice a month, and this should enable members to attend more often.

Together we can make this a very successful year.

Sincerely,

President  
Greg Kuhn