



OPTIMIST-AC.ORG

Volume 1 Issue 2

The Sequoia

"STRENGTH THROUGH GROWTH"

ATLANTIC CENTRAL DISTRICT 2009-2010
DISTINGUISHED DISTRICT 2007-2008



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE ATLANTIC CENTRAL DISTRICT - OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

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 onto 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.



Governor's Message:

A New Year for Growth and Optimism

By Governor Scott Pinheiro

The holidays are behind us. This is a special time of year when we all take time to give thanks for a bountiful harvest. We enjoy the joyous season of Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa. It is a time spent with friends and family. This new calendar year brings an opportunity to reflect on accomplishments past and resolutions for improvement for the new year. Let's all try to leave some room for our Optimist Mission 'Bringing Out the Best in Kids'.

The first few months of the Optimist year can best be described as a rollercoaster of emotions. The peaks have come from sharing some terrific meals at officer installment meetings and club anniversaries around the district.

I have had an opportunity to hear about some interesting and innovative service projects being planned by our clubs. One such example is the Westfield Club's Haunted House. They must have had a thousand kids pass through this venue.

I have attended Piggy Bowl Football in Boyertown for the first time. I am glad I did. This is an outstanding Optimist hands-on project.

West Hudson/South Bergen did their student of the month award in conjunction with their installation dinner. Together we awarded a gifted student and installed a new club president who is relatively new to Optimism.

The peaks come from the five new club opportunities we are working on.

- Yardley, PA
- Erie, PA
- Gibsonsia, PA
- Edison, NJ
- Hightstown, NJ

We are looking for names of folks you may know in these areas to join us in our club building efforts. Please call me or Sue Creswell if anyone comes to mind.

See "Message" pg. 11

IF You Build It...

A New Club Building (NCB) committee's primary goal is to build and develop new clubs that offer the opportunity to people to contribute to the betterment of the community with a strong focus on youth development.

While Optimists are all about youth, we are proud to offer the added benefits of leadership, fellowship and personal development that building a new club provides.

These opportunities may be viewed in various locations on the Optimist International website (www.optimist.org).

Optimist International understands that people join a club for different reasons; the number one reason they join an organization has always been "intangible benefits."

Most become members for that gratifying and exhilarating feeling that comes from helping a young person succeed. Optimist International recognizes diversity and time limitations of today's population so a variety of styles and suggestions are offered on the Optimist website.

For more information, contact our District NCB Chairperson Susan Creswell at sstav@ptd.net.

FIFTY AND COUNTING

Freehold Evening Club Reaches Milestone

In 1959, a small group of visionaries from the Atlantic City Optimist Club set out to build a new club in Freehold. It was a time when things were a little different. The cost of a first class postage stamp was 4 cents, a round trip bus fare from Freehold to NYC was \$2.80, seedless grapes were 33 cents for two pounds at the brand new Shop-Rite in Freehold and we watched maybe six-channels of television (black and white) if we had a television.

Now, fifty-years later and inflation has skyrocketed, the personal computer has brought the world to our fingertips, we boast more channels on TV that we could have ever imagined and unfortunately the Atlantic City Optimist Club has gone by the wayside but the Freehold Evening Club continues to serve the community and the kids.



Three of the four past governors from the NJLNY District (Leo Chernev, Joe Salkin, and Bill Woodard) who attended the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Freehold Evening Optimist Club, pose for a picture with event chairperson and longtime club member Jim Schmitt.

Celebrating their first 50-years at Frankie Fed's Restaurant in Freehold, were club members, family, friends and Optimists from the Freehold Sunrise Club and the Howell Club. President Joe Salkin presided over the evening event.

The only surviving member of the charter year of the club and chairperson of the event, Jim Schmitt, said he was very pleased with the turnout. "It was good seeing such a fine turnout of the membership and it bodes well for the new year of Optimism."

Attending the celebration, Past NJLNY Governor Joe Kienzlen said, "Jim did an outstanding job getting this together. It was very evident that everyone there had a great time."

"This club has so much history; just look at what they have done to help build the organization. Every club in the area can trace their roots to this club. Not many clubs will achieve this kind of milestone."

"I'm sure I speak for all Optimists, especially those from the old New Jersey Lower New York District, when I say how proud we are of all that the Evening Club has accomplished. I'm honored to have been there to personally thank them and wish them the best of luck for another 50 years."

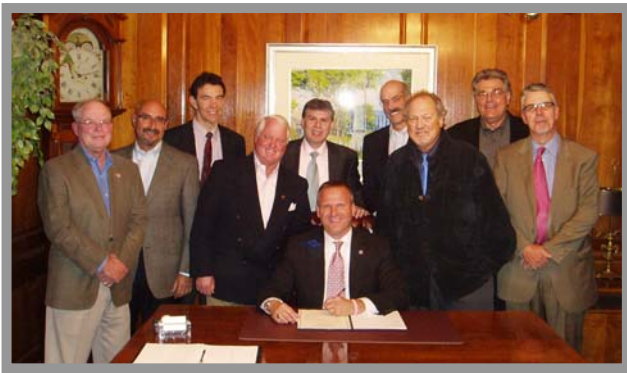
Schmitt said a 50/50 raffle was held with the proceeds of \$1300 going directly to Camp Quality - a camp for kids with cancer supported every summer by the local Optimist Clubs and club volunteers.

Optimists Extend A Hand To The Community

Show your community that Optimists support those who support them

Each Optimist Club is encouraged to extend a membership invitation to one individual who has recently lost their job. When they join, Optimist International will waive their dues and fees through September 30, 2010.

For details, e-mail membership@optimist.org, call (800) 500-8130 or go to the Membership section of www.optimist.org. Some restrictions apply.



Westfield Mayor Andy Skibitsky (seated) joins current and past presidents of the Westfield Club in celebrating 20 years of service to the community.

Standing L-R: Mike Walsh, Marty Silverman, Jim Fleming, Don Pray, Russ Finestein, Jeffrey Feldman, Mitchell Newmark, Frank Schwarzer, Rob Shaffer.

Atlantic Central Optimist Clubs take kids to the 'Sweetest Place on Earth'

In the world of Optimism it's the one common thread that runs through the organization – the children.

In the world of a child, two pleasures that rise to the top and create a magical combination are chocolate and a trip to an amusement park.

So, on Friday, August 21st, members of Atlantic Central District Optimist Clubs combined their efforts, took those two components, thread them together and accompanied fifty-six kids to the "Sweetest Place on Earth" Hershey Amusement and Water Park, for a tasty and unforgettable day.

The trip was planned in conjunction with the AC Optimist Convention weekend also in Hershey Pa. "We wanted to kick off our convention with a quality community service project," said Scott Pinheiro, then Governor-elect of the Atlantic Central District and the organizer of the event.

"For many of these children this will be the highlight of their summer season," he said.

"Hosting a community service project like this on the opening day of our Convention helped set the tone for the entire weekend," said Governor Scott. "The Optimist mission is to 'bring out the best in kids'. It just seems like the right way to start our Convention, doing something special for the children of the community."

The kids, primarily from Monmouth and Ocean Counties in New Jersey, departed the CentraState Medical Center in Freehold (see photo page 7) and arrived in Hershey in time for sumptuous lunch and a torrential rain. Fortunately for the group they were under cover for lunch. By the time lunch concluded, in typical Optimist fashion, the sun was out for the rest of the day. According to the governor everyone had a great time and returned to CentraState exhausted.

For additional information and ideas for your clubs' next community service project, contact Carmina Taylor, District Activities Chair. Carmina can be reached at 215 643-4893 or by email at carminaadela@yahoo.com "It Is Our Time To Grow."

"The world of achievement has always belonged to the optimist."

--- J. Harold Wilkins

Email your club's events and activities to The Sequoia at

AC02news@aol.com

FREEHOLD

NOONTIME

CELEBRATES RED RIBBON WEEK



It was a pretty chilly afternoon the day Nooners gathered outside for this photo representing Drug Free in honor of Red Ribbon Week.

Thanks to all the members that came out to show their support.

The club helped to sponsor this event in conjunction with the Health Awareness Center.

The Nooners are in the process of making plans for their annual Youth Appreciation Program and the very popular spelling bee, which is scheduled for January 20.

In addition, they provided food and volunteered their time at the local Soup Kitchen over the holidays.

PITTSBURGH NORTH

The Pittsburgh North Optimist Club organized and hosted the Fifth Annual Pittsburgh Family Bike Ride for children.

This year about 200 children rode the 5-mile course along with parents through the Flat River Trails near downtown Pittsburgh.

The event was free for everyone and sponsored by American Eagle Outfitters, who made a generous donation to the Club.

This is an easy ride designed to encourage parents to get the kids "off the couch" and do something fun and healthy together. The weather was beautiful and everyone had lots of fun. Many have already asked about the ride next year.



"THE INTERNET: TODAY'S EVOLUTION OR TOMORROW'S MENACE?"

ALL CLUB CONTESTS ARE TO BE HELD BEFORE FEBRUARY 28, 2010

THE WINNING CLUB ESSAY MUST BE SENT TO THE DISTRICT ESSAY CHAIRMAN BY MARCH 15, 2010 WITH A \$20.00 CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO THE ATLANTIC CENTRAL DISTRICT.

MAKE SURE YOU ENCLOSE THE SIGNED APPLICATION FORM, A COPY OF THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND THE ESSAY.

THE CLUB ESSAYS WILL BE JUDGED AND A DISTRICT WINNER WILL BE DETERMINED BEFORE APRIL 15, 2010.

THE DISTRICT WINNER WILL BE INVITED TO THE THIRD QUARTER MEETING MAY 22, 2010 IN FREEHOLD, NJ, TO READ THE WINNING ESSAY.

THIS YEAR'S INTERNATIONAL WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$2,500.00 SCHOLARSHIP

ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CONTEST OR PROCEDURES PLEASE CONTACT:

PDG LESTER MCMACKIN
PHONE (717) 755-6280
YORKGANDP@AOL.COM

BOYERTOWN

It was early in the morning of October 10th and the Boyertown Optimists were making final arrangements for the annual Piggy Bowl. Saturday and Sunday, ten football games would be played by approximately 400 young players and supported by roughly 300 cheerleaders and parents. Piggy Bowl has been a tradition in Boyertown for over 50 years and provides the youth of the area the opportunity to play on the high school field and for those who have been in our program the longest, a chance to play under the lights on Saturday night.

Since the First Quarter Board meeting also coincided with the dates of Piggy Bowl and was held nearby, we were also expecting some special visitors and Governor Scott to make an appearance in the afternoon.

Alas, the weather was gloomy. Clouds were a plenty and although a downpour was not predicted, it was raining. Everyone involved was apprehensive. Would the Athletic Director call and cancel Piggy Bowl due to the weather? What would the field conditions be like? Preparations continued and no call came. The games began a scheduled and the skies, while remaining cloudy, stopped dropping liquid sunshine later in the morning.

Governor Scott and some others arrived in the afternoon and were introduced to football Boyertown style. The district representatives were given a brief history of Piggy Bowl. One person asked how the festivities became known as Piggy Bowl. Frankly, it is one of those things that has been going on for so long we were not exactly sure other than to say a football used to be called a "pigskin" thus Piggy Bowl. The representatives got to see some long runs by the players and you know 70 or 80 yards is a long way to run on 8 and 9-year-old legs. Those short legs do not cover a lot of ground with each stride.

Later Kendal Place was introduced as the Piggy Bowl Princess for her essay regarding the internet. On Sunday the sunshine was out and the entire weekend was a success. The call never came to postpone the games and the Boyertown Optimists kept moving forward on that Saturday morning with optimism that it would all work out.

This time it did. I do not know the results of the games other than to say, everyone competed hard and with sportsmanship. The important part of the weekend was to give the kids the thrill of playing on the big stage and learning a little about the game of football.

A WORD FROM OUR OI PRESIDENT

Greetings Governor Scott and the Atlantic Central Optimists,

Home of the 2009 World Series champions!

Surely, the Phillies and Yankees brought out the best in each other. This was fun and exciting to watch.

Likewise, I know you are already bringing out the best in the kids of your communities.

The 2009-10 year is an opportunity for you to bring out the best in yourself, too.

You can do this by:

- a) GROWING your service to more kids;
- b) GROWING your Club's visibility;
- c) GROWING membership in your Club and/or in a nearby community.

Your commitment and dedication are certainly appreciated.

THANK YOU for all you do!

Promise yourself...for the kids!

Optimistically,

Mark O. Shriver, IV

International President

CONGRATULATIONS...

LANCASTER CLUB...brought in the last club for 2008-2009.

On September 24, the Newark (Ohio) Area Optimist Club was officially chartered.

Past Governors Wil and Marion Dourte's daughter Polly will serve as the Charter President of the new club.

Polly and Marion are the Builders of Excellence.

HOWELL CLUB...will be celebrating their 20th year during the 2009-2010 Optimist year.

Look for more information as the date gets closer!

WESTFIELD CLUB...recently celebrated their 20th year of service to the community. See photo on page 3.

District Officers & Executive Committee 2009-10

Past Distinguished Governor

Les J. McMackin Jr.
Club - York
H (717) 755-6280
C (717) 825-4424
yorkgandp@aol.com

Governor

Scott R Pinheiro
Club - Freehold Sunrise
H (732) 274-0232
C (732) 754-8865
Scott21857_80@msn.com

District Treasurer

Guy A. Templin, POI Bd.
Club - Keep the Ball Rolling
C (484) 256-5596
H (610) 670-1439
Guy@templinfamily.org

Asst. Governor Zone 2

TBD

Asst. Governor Zone 4

Watonah Epps
Club - Lower Montco
C (215) 654-3861
Watonah48@aol.com

Asst. Governor Zone 6

Thomas McGlynn
Club - East York
H (717) 792-4794
C (717) 880-9645
optompg88@aol.com

Immediate Past Governor

Maxcine Collier
Club - Lower Montco
H (215) 793-0316
C (267) 210-7164
maxcinesc@aol.com

District Secretary

Marilina DeNuptiis
Club - Howell
C (732) 616-3311
marilina_d@msn.com

Asst. Governor Zone 1

Larry Iserson
Club - Freehold Sunrise
C (732) 489-3099
H (732) 308-0363
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Asst. Governor Zone 3

Eugene A. Riordan
Club - Rose Tree Media
C (610) 745-0104
erriordan@aol.com

Asst. Governor Zone 5

Greg DeLong
Club - Kutztown
C (610) 334-4524
Gdelo538@gmail.com

Asst. Governor Zone 7

Christine Schaffer
Club - Allegheny Valley
C (610) 906-5301
Chrissy.schaeffer@gmail.com



The Valley Forge Optimist Club recently performed the fall Highway Cleanup on Valley Forge Road in King of Prussia (see below). The members were assisted by the Upper Merion High School Octagon Club.

The groups also participated together in the High School Social Night in November.



Left: The Optimist Club of West Hudson/South Bergen honored Samuel Bello, an 8th grade student at Schuyler School, as Youth-of-the-Month for October. Samuel is an outstanding student who is involved in many activities in school and out.

He was nominated by Principal Kathy Tutak. Donald Moss, President of the Optimist Club of West Hudson/South Bergen and Scott Pinheiro, Governor of the Atlantic Central District of Optimist International, presented Samuel with his award.

Photo (L-R): Samuel is flanked by his parents, Donald Moss, President of the Optimist Club of West Hudson/South Bergen and Scott Pinheiro, AC District Governor.

O.I. FOUNDATION Scholarship Support

In December of 2008, the Optimist International Board of Directors authorized increasing all scholarships to \$2,500 annually, effective 2009-2010.

This means the Foundation is providing \$10,000 worth of scholarships for the Atlantic Central District.

Scholarship Naming Opportunities

In order to assist in securing funding, Optimist International has authorized naming opportunities.

A five-year \$12,500 commitment with an outright gift will allow the donor to name one scholarship in one District for a five-year period. Example: *Optimist International Oratory Scholarship for Atlantic Central District #2 in Honor/Memory of John and Jane Donor.*

Funding of an endowment will allow for permanent naming of an Optimist International scholarship and may be funded with an outright gift or an estate gift or a combination of the two.

OIF Unrestricted Giving

As you can see we need to increase our Unrestricted Giving. Clubs can do that by giving an amount per member, for all members in their club, and your receive patches for your banner in the amount you give per-member i.e. \$1.00, \$5.00, \$10.00 per member.

We are also encouraging clubs to get 10 or more members to give A DIME A DAY (\$36.50 which goes into unrestricted funds). Your club could choose to give \$365.00 - A DOLLAR A DAY from the club.

Any question? Call or email

[Marion@Dourte.org 717-917-3601]

"Individual efforts when well directed can accomplish much, but the greatest good must necessarily come from the combined efforts of many.

Individual efforts may be turned to individual needs but combined effort should be dedicated to the service of mankind"

--- Paul Harris (Rotary International)

CAR RACE TO DENVER FOR THE O.I. FOUNDATION

CLUBS, GET YOUR CARS READY TO WIN!

RACE SCHEDULE:

1. Second Quarter Regional Meeting ~ February/March
2. Third Quarter/Oratoricals ~ May, CentraState Medical Center
3. International Convention Denver ~ July

RACE RULES:

CAR DIMENSIONS ~

Maximum size: 24" long x 18" wide x 10" high.

Cars should have "02" for the Atlantic Central District on them somewhere.

Cars should have club name on them.

Clubs may add anything they think will get them votes - example "\$\$\$".

WINNER will be the car that collects the most money for the O.I. Foundation at each level.

Winning Car moves on to the next race.



These very happy faces are only moments away from a wild, wet and wonderful day at the 'Sweetest Place on Earth'.

The kids (56 in all), donned their 'very green' Optimist shirts and boarded buses to spend the day at Hershey Amusement and Water Park as invited guests of the Atlantic Central District.

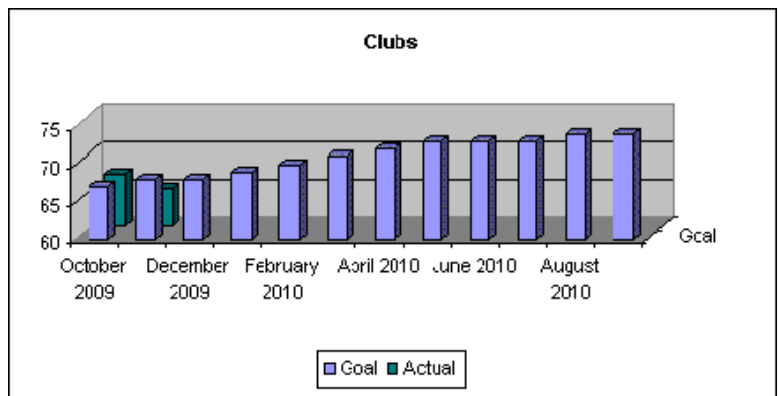
The day was held in conjunction with the district's annual convention we

nia.



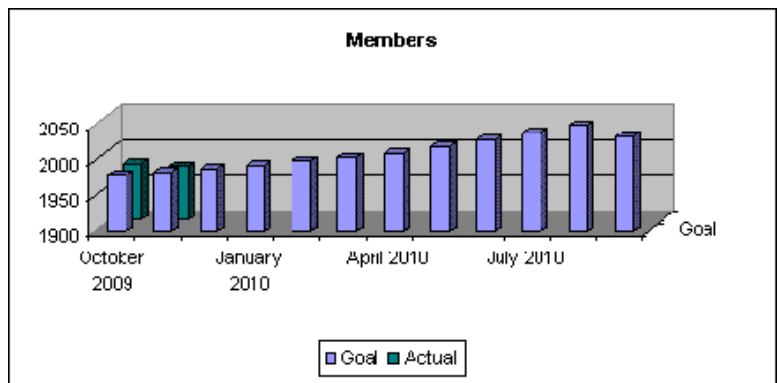
'IT'S OUR TIME TO GROW'

Month	Goal	Actual	% Growth
October 2009	67	67	0%
November 2009	68	65	-3%
December 2009	68		0%
January 2010	69		0%
February 2010	70		0%
March 2010	71		0%
April 2010	72		0%
May 2010	73		0%
June 2010	73		0%
July 2010	73		0%
August 2010	74		0%
September 2010	74		0%



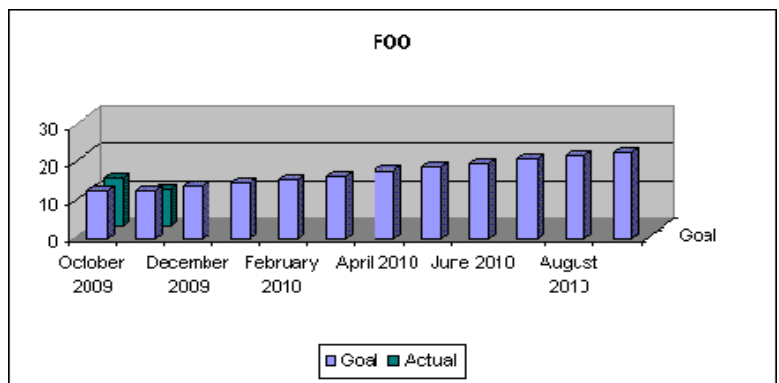
MEMBERS

Month	Goal	Actual	% Growth
October 2009	1980	1980	0%
November 2009	1985	1976	0%
December 2009	1990		0%
January 2010	1995		0%
February 2010	2000		0%
March 2010	2005		0%
April 2010	2010		0%
May 2010	2020		0%
June 2010	2030		0%
July 2010	2040		0%
August 2010	2050		0%
September 2010	2035		0%



FRIENDS OF OPTIMIST

Month	Goal	Actual	# Growth
October 2009	13	13	-
November 2009	13	10	(-3)
December 2009	14		(0)
January 2010	15		(0)
February 2010	16		(0)
March 2010	17		(0)
April 2010	18		(0)
May 2010	19		(0)
June 2010	20		(0)
July 2010	21		(0)
August 2010	22		(0)
September 2010	23		(0)



LANCASTER

The club is supporting two young cancer patients and their families with food, gas, and gift cards. They distributed Halloween "trick or treat" bags to children in the shelter for abused women.

Their NOW program on November 10, had three prospective members in attendance.

They have adopted a family who recently left the women's shelter, and will be providing food, clothing, gifts, and Christmas decorations for this family of four - mother, grandmother, and two boys.

The club's annual Holiday Party has been scheduled for Tues., Dec. 15. with several prospective members invited to participate.

On Dec. 24, Club members will help with the Lancaster Co. Project for the Needy, handing out turkeys and other food.

Email club info to: AC02news@aol.com

HOWELL

The Howler's have a very busy schedule with a number of community events throughout the holiday season.

Over the Thanksgiving holiday, club members assisted Howell Police Officer Chris Hill and the Howell PAL at the local Soup Kitchen serving over 300 people. They also helped to prepare Thanksgiving baskets for 34 families.

Thanks to club President Vicky the club received a donation (from a grant request) from the Wachovia Foundation in the amount of \$1,000. Many thanks to Vicky for letting us know about this opportunity and helping us get the grant request filed.

On November 13, club member and past Lt. Governor Ralph Hoffman received the community's Citizen of the Year award.

This year's Breakfast with Santa/NOW Breakfast, one of the club's most popular events had about 50 people attend and showcased the club for potential interest in membership.

WEST HUDSON - SOUTH BERGEN

In October members of the Optimist Club of West Hudson/South Bergen held their annual Golf Outing at the Knolls Country Club in Parsippany, NJ.

This is their largest fundraiser and raised over \$8,000 for the club. This money will be used to fund the many youth activities that the club engages in over throughout coming year.

Forty-four golfers participated and many businesses purchased hole sponsorships.

Prizes and trophies were awarded for lowest score (see picture below), closest to the pin, lowest foursome score (first, second, and third). There was also a 50-50 raffle.



Pictured is the foursome with the lowest overall score for the 18-hole course.

Also pictured: Frank Lardiere, Golf Outing Chairman (third from left), and Phil Johnston, Event Co-Chairman (far right).

Members of the Howell Club visit their local Stop n' Shop to pick up enough food for 34 families of Howell Head Start program. Later they gathered to assemble the "baskets" of Thanksgiving meals for all the families enrolled there.



Atlantic Central District Convention

Radisson Hotel, Corning, New York
125 Denison Parkway East Corning, NY 14830

August 20 - 22, 2010

Weekend Package for Two Includes:

- **Dinner Friday**
- **Breakfast Buffet Saturday**
- **Lunch Saturday**
- **Saturday Night Banquet**
- **Sunday Morning Breakfast**
- **Double Occupancy**

Total \$493.00 (It will cost you more to stay home!)

What's in Corning, New York?

- **Wineries**
- **Corning Museum of Glass**
- **Earth, Paint & Fire Studio**
- **Great Dining**
- **Shopping in quaint shops, not a commercial mall, along the picturesque Chemung River**
- **Huge selection of Antique Shopping**
- **Happy Tails Day Care & Pet Resort**
- **Night Clubs**
- **And much, much more to do and see in the Corning area**

Send your checks payable to:

Atlantic Central District

c/o Joe Salkin
2 Virginiana Terrace
Freehold, NJ 07728

Visit the AC District Web Site for more information

www.optimist-ac.org

"Message" from pg 1

The valleys have come from bidding farewell to five long standing clubs. We have lost one hundred and fourteen active Optimist Club members just since September 30.

The valleys have come from the resignations of two Assistant Governors who just can't make the commitment required for the challenges ahead of us. Finding replacements will be a tall order. It is time to step up if you are able.

The valleys have come from our inability to identify a governor-elect to lead us into 2010-11.

If your New Years resolutions include taking a more active role in Optimist affairs, I need to hear from you. We have plenty to do and we need your help.

During this holiday season, I would be remiss if I did not thank each of you for the hard work you do every day to further our mission. I would also like to thank you for the confidence you have shown in me as your District Governor.

PASSAIC/CLIFTON

During the month of November the Passaic Indians and Clifton Mustangs Football players (pictured), Cheerleaders, Marching Bands and even the Girls Volleyball Team members met to break bread in the 10th Annual Optimist Club Hot Dog Night.

The event was held at the Clifton Recreation Center, continuing the tradition of an 81-game rivalry between the two high schools, which spans a history of 86 years.

Hot Dog Night is sponsored by the Optimist Clubs of Clifton and Passaic. During the hot dog dinner, a student athlete from each team said a few words about their experience on and off the field and what the rivalry means to them and their teammates. It's not just the gridiron rivalry being celebrated that night.

As Optimists, we hope that the Hot Dog Night makes the world a little smaller and gentler, as kids from the two towns get to know each other not only as competitors but as neighbors.

Then on Thanksgiving Day, the teams met again at Clifton Stadium for the Optimist Cup Trophy, held by the Fighting Mustangs, who possess a 40-35-5 lead over their Passaic rivals.

The Optimist Cup—along with four MVP trophies, selected by the opposing team's athletic directors—was awarded on the field at the conclusion of the contest.

A New Years Letter from the Editor and Staff of The Sequoia

With the beginning of the new year only days behind us, many of us have thought long and hard about the resolutions we have made for ourselves and the promises for a new start. 'I will stop smoking, I will lose 10 pounds, I will be a better person,' and hopefully 'I will uphold the commitment I made to my club and my district and help whenever I'm needed'.

Many of those New Year resolutions will be broken by March, it happens to all of us, but being committed to this great organization, is an easy one to keep and you are not alone.

As Optimists we all share a common interest, helping the children of our communities and in the process we find that we have made new friendships and feel great about being able to make a difference in our neighborhoods and the world.

Share these things with friends. We are always looking for new, active members who share our commitment and concerns for a better community.

Wear your pin; let people know you are an Optimist and tell them what they can do to join you in Optimism.

Let them know how proud you are to be members of such a noble community organization.

Wishing all of you a healthy, prosperous and optimistic new year!!

Members of the Clifton Mustangs and the Passaic Indians prepare for this year's Thanksgiving Day game.





92nd Annual Optimist International Convention

Sheraton Downtown Denver
July 8-10, 2010

Don't miss out on all of the excitement as folks travel to the "Mile High City" to attend the 92nd Annual International Convention, the perfect blend of outdoor adventure and urban sophistication. That's the duality locals' love about Denver, Colorado.

Start planning NOW for your Club Officers to attend

Send your Club President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer Elect

Training is needed to effectively guide clubs through the year. Convention workshops have been developed to appoint officers, develop a budget, how to organize, set-up club meetings, perform service projects, retain members, file reports, add members and build new clubs. Expenses Clubs should allocate to send their officers to the Convention should include:

Hotel room

Airline ticket/driving expenses

Early bird registration Fee

Club President-Elect/Lt. Governor-Elect Breakfast ticket plus daily allotment for meals/tips, etc.

How to budget? If Club dues won't do it, hold Club fundraisers specifically dedicated to help pay the expenses to the International Convention. Don't let your Club President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer Elect miss the opportunity to take part in this innovative training program.

**Joe Kienzlen, Editor
Atlantic Central District
Optimist International
816 Maple Street
Lakehurst, NJ 08733**

**VISIT YOUR DISTRICT WEBSITE:
WWW.OPTIMIST-AC.ORG**