

OCEAN CITY BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

OPTIMISTS – BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS

Serving the Ocean City, Berlin and Greater Worcester County areas for over 40 years.



- **Officers:**
- President Bill Hickey 410-641-5948
- Vice President George Solyak 717-723-6507
- Vice President Christina Dolomount Brown 561-289-6801
- Past President Charles Smith
- Secretary Roger Pacella 410-641-8283
- Treasurer Joe Hammen 410-208-4304
- Sgt. At Arms Ernie Walton 443-669-4666
- Board; Charlie Dorman, Walt Lischak, Melva Middleton, Sharon Sorrentino

President's Message – Bill Hickey

March was a productive month for the Club. We held a very successful Oratorical Contest. We welcomed another 2 new members into the Club; breaking the threshold of 101; we are now 101 at large.

This month we celebrate 50 years as a Club and continue to support our Community of Kids'.

Looking forward to seeing as many of you that have time to join us at our May dinner meeting where we tally election results for the 2022-2023 Board. Then at our Anniversary Dinner on the 30th.

Bill Hickey

Last meeting, we presented Wayne Cott with the Optimist Special Recognition Award for all his help with our Annual Boat Show.



Charlie Dorman, Wayne Cott, Bill Hickey

Election of Officers Charlie Dorman

- Ballots must be returned in the Club addressed envelope postmarked by April 30. No ballots will be accepted at the meeting.
- Ballots will be opened and tallied at the May Dinner meeting.

Election ballots were issued for the following positions:

- President
- Three Board members

Fifty Years as A Club – Charles Smith

We will celebrate 50 years as a Club on Saturday, April 30th.

We have about 100 coming to the event. We all clean up nice so we should have a nice evening. See those who signed up about 6 on the 30th.

Dress Code; Business Casual. Be well!!!!!!

Dinner Call Committee – Charles Smith

Our May dinner is on the 5th at the Legion. Please note that last month we changed our meeting time to start earlier to allow more members to attend.

- **Social at 5:15, Dinner 6pm.**

Please respond to your contact and let's have a nice crowd.

Membership – Roger Pacella

At the March Dinner meeting we presented new membership packages to four new members.



Steve Howse, Katherine Cater, Irene Kordick, Lynn Barton,

At the April Dinner meeting we presented to three of our seven new members for April.



Bill Hickey, Chris Short, Christopher Thomas, Angela Short, Roger Pacella

This month we welcome an additional two new members to our Club, bringing our total to 101!

Please welcome

Sierra Ames, Snow Hill. Sierra is a case manager for Diakonia and would like to help with youth activities.

Harold P. Evans, Ocean City. Harold is retired and would like to help with finance and budget.

Please continue to invite new members into our club.

Oratorical Contest – Sharon Sorrentino

“Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times”

I want to begin by thanking everyone who volunteered and helped make this year’s Oratorical contest a great success!

There were four preliminary contest rooms with a total of 12 judges

- Cheryl Bissell, Karen Butterweck, Caryln Crout, Nancy Hendricks, Nancy Howard, Christine Parks, Anita Roberts, Theresa Solyak, Roger Pacella, Sandy Reifsnyder, Jackie Todd, and Tom Wallace)

Four Timekeepers

- Charlie Deal, Joseph Jankowski, Cindy Malament and George Solyak

Four Sergeants-at-arms

- Maxine Brisbane, Doug Fischer, Bob Reifsnyder, and Rush Roberts

Our facilitator, Jack Sizemore

Our counter, Rich Caproni

Our master of ceremonies, Charles Smith

Our snacks provider, Melva Middleton Dorman

And a special thanks to Principal Lynne Barton, teachers, and staff at Stephen Decatur Middle School for of all of their assistance.

Also, a thank you to judges-Barbara Johnson, James Meckely, and Dr. Robert Paladino; timekeeper-Monica Perella; and sergeant-at-arms-Ernie Walton; and Melva who helped at the finals contest.

The Club’s Preliminary Contest was held on Tuesday, March 29 with 24 participants from Show Hill Middle, Stephen Decatur Middle and High Schools, and Worcester Preparatory School.

After enjoying the speeches of 6 students in each room, the four first place winners were announced:

Lily Sperry, Saylor Amos, Jonah Ridgely, and Jessica Beck. All participants received a certificate of participation.

The Club’s Finals Contest was held on Thursday, March 31 with the 4 preliminary winners participating. The finalist winners were as follows,

1st place - Jessica Beck who received a gold medallion and \$300.

2nd place - Saylor Amos who received a silver medallion and \$200.

3rd place - Lily Sperry who received a bronze medallion and \$100.

4th place - Jonah Ridgely who received \$75.

Jessica Beck and her parents attended our April 7th meeting, and our club members were delighted to hear Jessica's winning speech.

Because our club was the only one in our Zone to hold an Oratorical Contest this year, Jessica Beck and Saylor Amos will be competing in the District Contest on April 30 held at the Carousel Hotel from 2:00-3:30.

We are supplying lunch for the contestants and providing the three judges for the contest.

The winner of this competition is eligible to compete in the 2022 Optimist Oratorical World Championship to be held July 21-22 in St. Louis, MO.

I'm anticipating a much larger turn out for next year's oratorical contest. This means I'll need more judges, timekeepers, and sergeants-at-arms. I'm compiling a list of volunteers for the 2022-2023 contest. If you helped this year, you are on my list! If you don't think you're on my list and want to volunteer, please email me sharon.sorrentino@yahoo.com, and I'll add your name to my list and will contact you as soon as I know next year's topic and dates.

Again, thanks to EVERYONE who helped with this year's contest!



Bill Kickey with Dr. & Mrs. Beck and our First Place Oratorical Contest winner Jessica Beck, and of course, our Committee Chair Sharon Sorrentino! ***Thanks to Sharon on a spectacular event!***

Fran Pilarski with 2nd Place Essay Contest Winner Hannah Short



FEBRUARY PHOTOS



Hannah Short with her Father Chris,
Sister Mary, and Mother Anglea

Bill Hickey presented the Optimist Special Recognition Award to Charles Deal for his continued support in running the Hot Chocolate Booth during the Ocean Pines Annual Christmas Festival of Lights.





ART CONTEST

1st Place Winner in Painting Category Izzy Huber with Sharon Sorrentino, Kayla Halbig and Judge Gloria Richards



2nd Place Winner in the Painting Category Kayla Halbig with Judge Gloria Richards

Izzy Huber with her mother.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Deadline for postmarked returned Ballots

Saturday, April 30th.

Saturday, April 30, Oratorical District Contest, Carousel Hotel, 2:00-3:30

Saturday, April 30th, 50th Anniversary Club Dinner, American Legion, 6pm

May Dinner Meeting & Election Results, Thursday, May 5th
American Legion, 5:15pm Social, 6pm Dinner

May Board Meeting, Thursday May 12th
Ocean Pines Community Center, 6pm

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.