

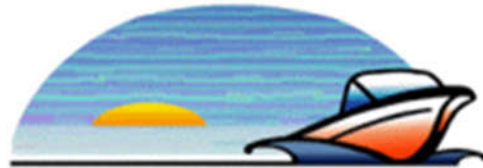
# OCEAN CITY BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB

## OPTIMISTS - BRINGING OUT THE BEST IN KIDS

Serving the Ocean City, Berlin and Greater Worcester County areas for over 50 years.



## 40th Annual



**OC SEASIDE BOAT SHOW**

**February 17,18,19 2023**

**CHARLIE DORMAN SELLS OUT CONVENTION CENTER!**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 40th Annual Seaside Boat Show
- Art Contest ..... 5
- Oratorical Contest..... 4
- Benefits of Reading to Children ..... 5
- WorWic Scholarships ..... 5
- Essay Contest ..... 6
- November Fundraising ..... 7
- Presidents Message ..... 7
- OCOP Web site ..... 8
- Membership ..... 8

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ocean Pines Christmas Tree
- Boat Show Parades
- Welcome New Treasurer
- Club Website
- Winter Coats
- Christmas Dinner Party
- Hot Chocolate Booth

Ocean City Berlin Optimist Club  
P.O. Box 1403  
Ocean Pines  
Maryland 21811

Phone: 561-289-6801  
E-mail: dolomount@gmail.com

40<sup>th</sup> Annual Seaside



**Admission**  
Adults \$10  
Children \$1 (under 14)

# BOAT SHOW

*Sponsored by the Ocean City - Berlin Optimist Club*



**February 17-19, 2023**  
Roland E. Powell Convention Center  
Ocean City, Maryland  
[ocboatshow.com](http://ocboatshow.com)

Friday 10am-6pm  
Saturday 10am-6pm  
Sunday 10am-4pm



*Friend of Youth*

**The Boat Show That Works For Kids!**

Boat Show  
**GIVEAWAY**

north bay marina

Win a Boat & Motor donated by

## 40TH ANNUAL SEASIDE BOAT SHOW

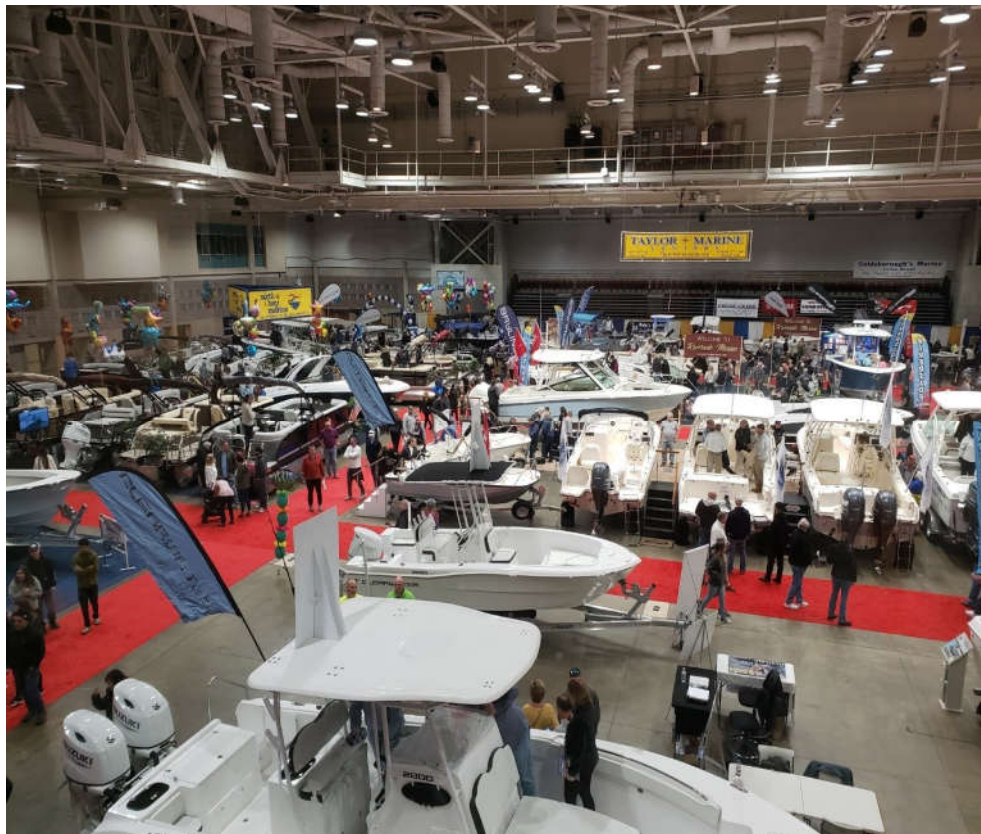
Thanks again to Charlie Dorman for organizing, planning, and selling out all booths at this years upcoming 40th Annual Seaside Boat Show. Charlie spends thousands of volunteer hours every year to make the Clubs biggest fundraiser happen.

Wayne Cott has been instrumental in assisting Charlie over these past several years and the Club wishes to thanks him for the time and efforts he has provided to ensure that all runs smooth. Wayne will be leaving our area next year and we wish him the best of luck.

There are many positions open for members to volunteer at this years event. Ticket takers, ushers, reception desk, raffle ticket sales and door security to mention a few. Please take the time to join us at the Show and give a special thanks to Charlie for his hard work.



Committee Chair Charlie Dorman with wife Melva at the 2022 Boat Show



### BOAT SHOW CHRISTMAS PARADES

*Reported by Vice President  
George Solyak*

For the upcoming Boat Show we are participating in the following parades to promote the Boat Show and the pontoon boat raffle from North Shore Marina.

**Thursday, December 1st, Berlin Christmas Parade.**

We are in the 22nd position which is early in the parade. The parade starts at 7:00pm

**Saturday, December 3, Ocean City Christmas Parade.**

The parade starts at 11am

Thanks to Charlie Dorman for putting this together.



***SDMS student Nate Brant merges their Builders Club with the Optimist***

Club member Mindy Ouellet volunteered to have the Builder Club in SDMS decorate ornaments for the Ocean Pines Christmas Tree this year. Based on this first example from Nate Brant we are going to have the best tree in the garden this year. Thanks to Mindy for involving the kids with our Club; another start of a great relationship.

**OCEAN PINES 2021**

For the Christmas Tree Lighting in Ocean Pines last year the Showell Grade 2 Class decorated ornaments for our Tree. The Club thanked them by purchasing reading books for each of the kids in their class. The class then thanked the Club by each drawing a thank you note. This example of giving back creates feelings of reward on both sides.

Due to the support of our members the Optimist Club of Ocean City Berlin will continue to be in a position to help these children through their upcoming years to final graduation.

Thanks to their wonderful teacher Jodi Popielaski for being such a great mentor to these kids.

**"DISCOVERING THE OPTIMISM WITHIN ME"**

***Reported by Committee Chair Sharon Sorrentino***

**Optimist Oratorical Contest - "Discovering the Optimism within Me"**

A big thank you to Lynne Barton for scheduling our club's 2023 oratorical contest for Tuesday, March 28 (preliminary) and Thursday, March 30 (finals) at Stephen Decatur Middle School at 6:00.



I'll be contacting past volunteers and, hopefully, recruiting more judges, sergeants at arms, and timekeepers for what I expect to be a large number of participants at the 2023 contest.

**Optimist High School Art Contest**

**The Worcester County Arts Council in February**

I am in the process of updating the contest categories. This year, in addition to the three Worcester County public highs and Worcester Prep, we are inviting the Seaside Christian Academy high school art students to participate.

The artwork will be displayed in the WCAC Exhibit room throughout February with the open house and awards night scheduled for Friday, February 10, 2023, from 5:00 - 7:00 with the awards presented at 6:00.

If you wish to volunteer to help at either of the contests, please email me at [sharon.sorrentino@yahoo.com](mailto:sharon.sorrentino@yahoo.com), and I'll be in touch!



## 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 .



## BENEFITS OF READING TO CHILDREN

Club Member and Scholarship Fundraiser Larry Campbell told me of how he would read to children at school. The benefits of this are well documented and one that Larry has experienced first hand as a past principal and teacher.



*Larry Campbell, Club Member since Jan 2011*

The Children's Bureau note the following on their website.

Whether you're reading a classic novel or fairy tales before bed, reading aloud to children can significantly benefit your child's life. Some benefits reading to children include:

- ◆ Supported cognitive development
- ◆ Improved language skills
- ◆ Preparation for academic success
- ◆ Developing a special bond with your child
- ◆ Increased concentration and discipline
- ◆ Improved imagination and creativity
- ◆ Cultivating. lifelong love of reading.

## OPTIMIST SUPPORT WORWIC SCHOLARSHIPS

This month the Club signed a memo of understanding with WorWic Community College to provide scholarship funding. We will provide financial support for tuition, fees and/or books for students whose primary residence is Worcester County, Maryland. Total funding will be \$40,000.00, for this current school year.

Eligible students must meet the following criteria:

- A resident of Worcester County, Maryland 17-20 years of age
- Enrolled in a credit program taking 6 or more credits OR Enrolled in one or more non-credit courses including continuing education or workforce development
- Cumulative grade point average (CPA) of 2.5 or higher

This is a need-based scholarship with preference given to students with the greatest financial need. An effort will be made to award at least one student from each high school in Worcester County (presently Pocomoke High School, Snow Hill High School and Stephen Decatur High School).

The recipients of this scholarship and the amount of each scholarship shall be selected by representatives of Wor-Wic Community College Foundation.

Special thanks for the members of our Scholarship Committee who worked this past Summer to develop this program. Thanks to Larry Campbell, Roger Pacella, Kathy Yates, Robert Grimm, Ron Ferger and George Balunis.

## CLUB POSITION

### TREASURER

We are pleased to announce that Ed Townsend has accepted responsibility for the position of Club Treasurer. Last year Ed volunteered to assist with the accounting for the Foundation so now he has the entire Club assets under his careful watch. Thanks Ed, your expertise is much appreciated.



---

*To talk health, happiness and prosperity  
to every person you meet*

---

**“WHO IS AN EVERYDAY HERO THAT BRINGS  
OUT THE OPTIMISM IN YOU?”.**

### **OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST**

After many years of being Committee Chair of the Essay Contest Fran Pilarski has handed the reigns over to Kathy Cater. Our special thanks to Fran for all her work.

Kathy has contacted and sent information regarding the contest and the applications for submission to all area school grades 6-12. The official topic this year is **“Who is an Everyday Hero that Brings Out the Optimism in You?”.**

The contest is divided into two levels of competition: Club (preliminary contest/\$500) and District (scholarship competition/\$2500). Winners at the Club level will be submitted to the District level for judging. **Deadline for Club submission is Wednesday, December 21, 2022.** Deadline for District Submission is February 28, 2023 (To be submitted by Club Chairperson).

The suggested positions for this committee are Project Chair, Contest Coordinator, and Judging Coordinator. Kathy is already Project Chair and has taken care of disseminating information to schools.

What is needed are judges (3 judges + 1 back up in case of emergency).

If you are interested in participating on this committee please contact Kathy at [Kxcater1061@gmail.com](mailto:Kxcater1061@gmail.com) or call 410-713-2083



## NOVEMBER FUNDING

The **Delmarva Titans Organization** were provided \$500 for equipment. The funding will go towards a program of travel ball including softball and baseball for sixteen girls from Worcester County. Thanks to member Don Fentress for bringing this request to the Club.

**Ocean Pines Children's Theatre.** The Board approved \$500 toward their next production.

**Believe in Tomorrow.** Funds were requested for a Believe in Santa Breakfast. This organization is approved in the annual budget for a total amount of \$3,000.

**Worcester Youth & Family Counselling.** \$1000 was approved.

**Worcester County Public Schools Counselors.** Club member and SDMS Counsellor Cherie Townsend is organizing bring 22 counsellors from Worcester County to a conference in Cambridge in March. The Club approved \$3,500 for travel cost and fees.

**Toys for Tots.** Additional \$2,000 funding from last month was approved.

**Coats for Kids.** Funds were provided to Steve Acton for the purchase and distribution of coats for kids. Thanks to Steve for organizing this wonderful program.

### *A message from the President*

Thanksgiving is here and Christmas is just around the corner. It is this time of year that we should take time to reflect on the many things we are grateful for and pass this gratitude onto loved ones, friends, and even those not normally in our daily circle.

Being Optimists should be our way of life, every day, throughout the year. Having positive attitudes should not only be something we say when we read our creed, but demonstrate daily. We are all very fortunate in our own ways; there are many others that are not as lucky. Our Club makes a difference in the lives of many children each and every year.

I would like to thank each of you for participating in this great Club. Together we shall continue to make a difference in our Community, present, and future.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Christina Dolomount Brown



### **JOE HAMMEN**

Joe has been a Club member for over 24 years. Prior to joining Ocean City Berlin Joe was a member and President at Randallstown.

He has served as President, Past President and Treasurer. This past month Joe suffered a stroke and has had to retire his position as Treasurer of the Club.

Joe is currently at the Harrison House in Snow Hill and accepts visitors by appointment. He is on a waiting list for a unit at the Woodlands but we expect he will not be relocated until after Thanksgiving.

Send cards or call to schedule a visit at Harrison House

430 WEST MARKET STREET  
SNOW HILL, MD 21863  
PHONE: (410) 600-7836



From 39th Annual Seaside Boatshow—Joe working on the reception desk greeting visitors with that perfect smile! A true Optimist!



## OCEAN CITY BERLIN OPTIMIST CLUB WEBSITE

The Club is pleased to announce that we have secured help with our website.

Mary Miller, Computer Science Instructor from Worcester Technical High School has agreed to manage the ongoing updates required to keep the website current. Mary will enlist the help of her Computer Science students as part to their internship and training.

If any members have updates or suggestions for the site please send them to Christina. Thanks to Kathy Cater for her help in connecting the school with the Club.

Visit [www.ocberlinoptimistclub.org](http://www.ocberlinoptimistclub.org)

### MEMBERSHIP & PUBLICITY—ROGER PACELLA, CHAIR

At our last board meeting we approved Jim Basilone for membership. I have done a Club Roster Adjustment and we are now at 104 members.

Welcome Jim and thanks for joining the Club!

We encourage everyone to be diligent in the search for new members. The larger we are in number, the stronger we are in results.

Please remember to take pictures at any Club events you participate in. Send them to me at [r.pacella2@comcast.net](mailto:r.pacella2@comcast.net) so I can arrange to have them published in the local papers. The more photo opportunities we have helps our exposure in the Community.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY 2022

Our annual Christmas party is looking like its going to be a great success with good participation. There is always room for more to attend. December 15th, Thursday. If you have not already please call either Bill Hickey at 443-880-0685, or Charlie Smith at 410-641-6746 to reserve your table. Hope to see you there!

### CLUB BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

Ron Ferber. 11/09	Hunter Walton. 11/24
Stan Randall. 11/10	Christina D Brown. 11/29
Donald Fentress. 11/18	

### HOT CHOCOLATE BOOTH

Thanks again this year to Charlie Deal for organizing Club Volunteers to serve Hot Chocolate at the this great family event on each Wednesday night. The show runs until December 31st.



WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS

November 17, 2022 - December 31, 2022

Open Wednesday - Sunday 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Admission: \$6.00 for guests 12 years and older; FREE for those 11 and younger.

### OC Berlin Optimist Club

#### Board of Directors

President, Christina Dolomount Brown  
Vice President, George Solyak  
Vice President, Melva Middleton Doman  
Past President, Bill Hickey  
Board Members; Sharon Sorrentino, Bill Thomson, Bill Brown  
Sargent at Arms, Cynthia Malament  
Secretary, Roger Pacella  
Treasurer, Ed Townsend

Boat Show Chair, Charlie Dorman  
Scholarship Chair, Larry Campbell

