



## From the Editor - Nancy DeNiro

My thanks to everyone who sent in photos and articles for this newsletter. Enjoy the read!  
Always Stay Optimistic!

### From the Prez

I recently had to remind myself of the question, "**Who else needs to know?**" I am often faced with that question when I have had a conversation with one person of a many-person group and the two of us have made a decision that affects others. Sometimes it is obvious who else we should tell, but sometimes it is difficult to determine the peripheral people who are also impacted. As a very large group of women with many activities happening in a short amount of time, we need to constantly communicate our plans to everyone who is affected. I will do my best to keep you informed.

Speaking of those many activities, we are embarking on our busiest project season. We will spend many hours on the following activities and we will impact hundreds of kids while sponsoring those activities.

### What we do:

<b>Brain Bowl</b>	<b>Tri-Star Basketball</b>	<b>OI Essay Contest</b>	<b>OI Oratorical Contest</b>
<b>OI Communication Contest for Deaf &amp; Hard of Hearing</b>			<b>Dr. Seuss books to 7 schools</b>
<b>Pen pals + popsicle party</b>	<b>Know Brainer</b>		<b>Summer packets for kids</b>
<b>UNC scholarships</b>	<b>Junior Golf</b>		<b>Super Citizen</b>

*Please forgive me if I have left something out.*

The question, "**Who else needs to know?**" also applies to spreading the word about what Optimists do. How many of your friends, co-workers, and acquaintances know what we really do? **The more we can talk about our projects and possibly invite others to join us for activities like "Movie and a Meal" and "Girls on the Go," the more we help others understand Optimism.** Maybe some of them would like to join us for a meeting to hear a wonderful speaker and to meet other wonderful women. Indeed, who else needs to know about us?

Optimistically spreading the word,

Linda



## December & January Programs



**December 5**

**Mary Archer**

Out & About  
Colorado



**December 12**

**Linda Williams**

Who Are We?



**December 19**

**Bobbie D'Addario**

Ready to Work



**December 26**

**Holiday gift  
exchange**



**January 2**

**Bingo Night**



**January 9**

**Michelle  
Weinraub, RN.  
Cherry Creek  
School District**

Keeping students  
physically and  
emotionally healthy



**January 16**

**Jan Eckhardt**

Max Fund  
Animal  
Adoption Center



**January 23**

**Abigail Nicholas**

Travelog through  
Scandinavia



**January 30**

**Open Forum**

## A Happy Bucks Look Back at 2019

Jenny Spampinato



TOC members, the Happy Bucks committee sends you a great big thank you for 2019 such a successful year. We were able to to make five donations last year of \$500 each for a total of \$2500.

Your Happy Bucks went to **Family Tree, Street Fraternity, The Red Tailed Hawk Park, Blue Bench and Minds Matter**. Now 2020 is off to a great start as we collect just a little bit more before making our next donation to **Camp Wapiyapi** (<http://www.campwapiyapi.org>).

Remember, Happy Bucks uses your money to make these donations. So your ideas for worthy organizations are always welcome.

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## Optimist News From A Club Outside CO/WY District

Kathy Sullivan

When ever I go to Kansas to visit my family, I try to attend the **Optimist Club of McPherson**. They are a combined group of men and women. They have many activities that I have enjoyed such as the citywide Easter Egg Hunt and the Hot Dog picnics that they provided for the 4 elementary schools in town.

One of their projects and main fundraiser is the Mid-America Basketball Tournament that also involves the local high school. Just a hint: You can't get a hotel room anywhere in the town during this event.

The pictures were taken at a rocket presentation that the Optimist help fund at a local elementary.

My Granddaughter, Brenna, was one of the six students to do the presentation at a club meeting.

**Rocket group, teachers and President of the Club**



**Brenna Sullivan**

## International Optimist Day - February 6

Members of Optimist International celebrate Optimist Day throughout the world the first Thursday of every February to promote our efforts in bringing out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

*“Volunteers working with young people who are our joy of today and our hope for tomorrow, are exuberant representatives of the potential to be reached and dreams to come true. They are also unbounded in their enthusiasm to use their own talent, skills, and hard work to make a difference in others’ lives.”*

**Tamarac ladies, wear your club shirts and pins to the meeting, on Thursday, Feb 6 and for a group photo to share on Facebook for all to see!**

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## Dime-a-Day Teas

Claire Young, Foundation Rep

Ladies who gathered for tea on Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> left to right:  
**Jeanette Thompson, Tricia Toney (helper), Judy Hein, Barb Althouse, Dee Carsten, and Abigail Nicholas.**



Jan 29 tea ladies were: **Nancy Wright, Cindy Eley, Marilyn Hodges, Marilyn Bower, and Kathy Sullivan.**

The next Dime-A-Day Tea dates are Wednesday Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Watch the mail for your invitations - - and if you have not yet put your \$36.50 in the envelope, consider donating to Dime-A-Day. It supports the OI Foundation scholarship programs!

## Dr Seuss Book Projects set in February & March

Sign up sheets are circulating at the meeting, but **we need A LOT of volunteers** for Dr Seuss this year! Please contact the listed coordinator to sign up for that session!



Feb 27	Goldrick ES	1:00pm	Judy Reed	<a href="mailto:irincolo@comcast.net">irincolo@comcast.net</a>
March 2	Holm ES	10:00 am	Marilyn Bower	<a href="mailto:urracca@aol.com">urracca@aol.com</a>
March 2	Samuels ES	1:00 pm	Marilyn Bower	<a href="mailto:urracca@aol.com">urracca@aol.com</a>
March 3	Rky Mtn Prep	1:00pm	Carolyn Bamford	<a href="mailto:carolynbamford@yahoo.com">carolynbamford@yahoo.com</a>
March 5	Bishop ES	2:00 pm	Carolyn Bamford	<a href="mailto:carolynbamford@yahoo.com">carolynbamford@yahoo.com</a>
March 6	Shoemaker ES	TBA	Linda Williams	<a href="mailto:lindaw8730@aol.com">lindaw8730@aol.com</a>
April 16	Place Academy	9:15	Verlee Greene	<a href="mailto:verleegreene@msn.com">verleegreene@msn.com</a>

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## Whose News - Bits and Pieces picked up from Claire Young & others

Big "75" birthday celebrations were reported in Jan by past presidents **Jeanette Thompson** and **Joyce Laman**. Family celebrations. Meanwhile, **Sally Evans** had help from son Tyler while recovering from knee surgery. **Laura Hoch** and her Tom are off to Barbados. **Tina Blenkarn** has departed Denver for her winter place in Scottsdale. And **Karen Somes** visited JoAnne Gagnet in Palm Desert, CA.

**Lois Jean Gallaway** and Keith volunteered 52 hours over two weeks at the stock show, then took a well deserved break to relax and ski in Breckenridge. **Mary Dealy** is heading to Las Vegas for Super Bowl weekend. **Diane Young** gets to celebrate her son's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with a family trip to Hawaii.

Friends (who are almost family) **Sheryl Overton**, **Sherry Pearn**, and **Nancy DeNiro** were Tom Overton's "harem" on a two week outing in Mexico.



## Holiday Gift Project Co-Chairs Joy Criminger, Barb Althouse

A HUGE thank you to 44 Tamarac ladies who provided either pants, shirts or shoes for 25 Holm elementary students this year during our annual holiday project! The 10 families, referred to us by the school's social worker, were enthusiastically grateful for our gifts for the kids, a family game and \$50 King Soopers gift card donated by the club

On December 21, 10 Tamarac ladies gathered at Barb Althouse's home for a potluck breakfast and left with a carload of gifts to deliver to the families.

Those playing Santa were: **Jeanette Thompson, Hatty McGuire, Sally Evans, Mary Gelb, Lois Jean Galloway, Ginny Crocker, Jenny Scampinato, Linda Williams and Roxie Strong.**



The committee of **Barb Althouse, Wilene Lampert and Joy Criminger** thank all for their support of this annual project.

## Big Turnout for Bingo!



## Old Friends Doing Well..



Char and Don St John



## March is Tri-Star Basketball Month! Joyce Laman

Tri-Star Basketball is starting! We are starting a little later in the year because our the final competition is **later** than it has been in the recent past.

**Our Tamarac contest is Sunday, March 1, at Montclair Rec Center, 729 Ulster Way, Denver 80220 - the same as last year. Volunteers are needed at noon, registration starts at 12:30 and contest starts at 1:00.**



**The East Regional competition will NOT be at Denver High School after the problems we had with no custodian. We are going to Central Park Rec Center at 9651 E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Denver 80238. It is a big, beautiful gym. The date is Sunday, March 22. Volunteers are needed at noon, registration starts at 12:30 and the contest starts at 1:00.**

**Finals are Sat., April 11 at the Pepsi Center.** Volunteers need to arrive at 11:45, Registration starts at 12:15, and the contest starts close to 1:00 pm. The Nuggets game against the Sacramento Kings it at 7:00 pm. Our student winners will participate in activities before the game. Volunteers can request a complimentary ticket for the game.

**We need lots of volunteers (20 +).** There will be other clubs helping for the Regional and Finals, but **TOC must provide the volunteers for our 1<sup>st</sup> contest.** Every skill station needs 2 or more people – and we need registration and scoring workers. New members, there will be lots of repeat volunteers and you will always be working alongside an experienced Club member. You DO NOT need to have any basketball skills. You will be keeping kids in lines, watching the foul lines, marking down scores, etc.

New members will find this rewarding to watch the kids having fun, getting a boost of confidence and getting excited to compete in the Regional competition. **Sign up at meetings through Feb. 20.** If you cannot attend a meeting to sign up, email **Joyce Laman at joycelaman@comcast.net.**



2019 Winners



## Girls On the Go (GOG) Kathy Sullivan

### December GOG

Our December activity took us to **Bethany Lutheran Church for the Colorado Christmas Chorale**. The music was wonderful. They sang some traditional Christmas carols and not so traditional. At the concert we also had a visit from Santa. The bonus was that **Loretta Blessinger** has two daughters that sing with the chorale.

### January GOG

In January our GOG was to the **Ready to Work Facility**. We were greeted by Bobbie and Philip. We took a tour of this facility that helps people get back on their feet. I was fascinated by Philip's story. He was raised by grandparents and then when they passed he was sent back to Chicago at 17 to be with his mom. He got involved in gangs, drugs and alcohol. Then he came to Ready to Work and has done a complete turn around of his life. He looked so much younger but he was in his fifties with a grandson. After the tour we went over to Heather Gardens for a tasty lunch.



### February GOG

Love is in the air!! This activity I am opening it up to members and their spouses etc. Come join the **Parker Symphony on Friday Feb. 14** (Valentine's Day) 7:30pm. They will be performing works from **Women Composers**.

## Save the Date!

## LET'S GET TANKED

**Nebraska isn't for everybody except Tamarac GOG**

Date change: Friday June 12 - Saturday June 13 - Sunday June 14.

We will be going to North Platte Nebraska for the annual retreat.

There is so much to see and do. The main activity will be tanking down the North Platte River.

Watch for more details and hotel information to come.

**TANK.**  
**Down The**  
**North Platte**



## NEWS BITS:

### ORATORICAL CONTEST COMING ON MARCH 11 -

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!** Oratorical is at Prairie Middle School on March 11. Help is needed registration, timing, judging, and as an encouraging audience! If you are interested in participating in this OI sanctioned activity, please contact **Tricia Toney** [tricia\\_t@gmail.com](mailto:tricia_t@gmail.com) ,

### UNC SCHOLARSHIP 'RE-AWARDED'

There was a bit of confusion in the UNC Financial Aid Office last fall which resulted in the \$1000 scholarship we awarded to Jesi Schoengarth being withdrawn by UNC. Rather than have that \$1000 returned to Tamarac, with the permission of the Board the \$1000 was awarded to **Cassandra Harden** who finished only one point behind Jesi. Cassandra was introduced to the club at the January 23 meeting at which time she spoke briefly on her background, current plans, and plans for her future. **Cassandra is from a Navajo tribe in New Mexico** with a passion for early childhood education.



L-R: Roseanne Fulton Program Dir  
Carol West, TOC Chair, Cassandra

### LOST YOUR NAME BADGE?



If your TOC name badge has vanished, (really vanished into the stratosphere), please let Nancy D know so a replacement can be ordered.

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## Big Check from Monaco South Optimist Club!



Working at Monaco South's Christmas Tree Lot paid big dividends for Tamarac again this year! Volunteers spent many hours tagging and logging-in hundreds of Christmas trees between Thanksgiving and mid December.

**Bob Meyer**, MSOC President, came to the meeting on January 23 to present the club a check for \$1000!

Many thanks to **Pat Dutton**, Tamarac organizer, and all the ladies who volunteered at the tree lot, sometimes more than once!



**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL**  
**F O U N D A T I O N**

# Dime-A-Day

**O**ptimist International and Optimist International Foundation coexist as two separate organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International and its mission.

When Members and Clubs make a contribution to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with that gift, supporting Optimist International itself and themselves as a Club as well.

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children. Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

The Dime-A-Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

Building a future where every kid counts  
**Can you spare a dime a day?**

Sign me up! Please accept my \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation. *(Enclose check, payable to Optimist International Foundation, referencing "Dime-A-Day" in the memo section.)*

Sign me up! Please accept my \$ \_\_\_\_\_ donation. Charge my  MC  Visa  Discover  American Express

Account # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Sign me up! Please deduct \$3.05 per month from my checking account.

Checking account number: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Please include a copy of a voided check)*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Club Number \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Dime-A-Day Campaign • P.O. Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195

