



## From the editor:

The holidays are around the corner, so spend time with those you love. Check in on your friends neighbors. Remember to live the Creed, and Always Stay Optimistic!

## Co-President's Corner - Bonnie & Claire

**What an exciting fall we've had so far.** Great speakers, fun Halloween party and so much going on it's hard to keep up. That's a good thing. You have really jumped in with speaker ideas and bringing a guest. Keep it up-**One speaker, One guest** will keep our club strong.

One of the most important projects we can undertake as an Optimist Club is to sponsor a **JOI (Junior Optimist International) club**. The opportunity has been handed to us to do with **Samuels Elementary**. Their principal is a member of Monaco South and he **Jeff Harper, Samuels Wellness Coordinator**, to be our contact/support person.



**So What Next?** We had many members raise their hands saying they were interested in helping. In the moment, I don't think anyone wrote all those names down, so please let yourselves be known. I do know that **Abigail Nicholas, Kathy Sullivan, Lisa Sylvest and Tamera Kirsh** (who also wants to start a JOI club in Kenya) are interested. Be sure and let Claire or Bonnie know if you are as well. It will take a village to do this job. Soon members will need to meet and organize with Jeff.

**Cost?** When chartering a new Club, the following fees are required: A one time \$50 enrollment fee and a \$60 registration fee prorated depending on which quarter we sign up. These fees are used to cover the costs of processing, start-up materials, membership cards and postage. Then when registering a student, depending on what quarter they join, it's \$10.00 or less per student. All of these costs would be our responsibility.

**Why?** Participation in Junior Optimist International gives young people the opportunity to serve their communities. Students learn about and practice good citizenship, teamwork, communication and money management. They feel good about themselves and have high self-esteem. Membership in JOI club helps to develop friendships with others who share the same interests. There are opportunities for personal growth and leadership positions at Club, District, and International levels. **JOI exposes Members to Optimism as a philosophy of life, provides members with an improved sense of kindness, increased awareness for those in need, and a better sense of coping with cultural diversity. And it promotes OI membership for future generations.**

**What will they do?** Like our club, JOI is pretty open to what the members want to take on for service and activities. To me that will be fun and exciting; seeing what the kids want to do. **Our job is to support and guide.**

Bonnie and Claire

## October Programs

**October 6**



**Mary Jo Hein**

**Medicare Update and Changes**

**October 13**



**Diane Young and Gerry Cummins from League of Women Voters to tell us about Denver and State-Wide Election Ballot issues.**

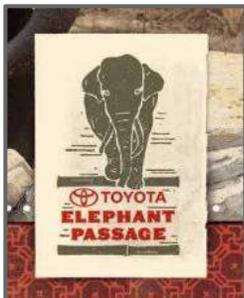
**October 20**



**Lisa Schultz – Author**

**Declutter for Lighter Living**

**October 27**



**Barbara Junkermeier  
(sorry, no pic)  
Denver Zoo Animal  
Keeper of Elephants**

### Wishing Happy TOC Anniversaries

- 5 years (2017) - Tina Blenkarn, Nora Kanterk, Norma Jean Kincaid, Patti Sherrod, Toni Willhite, Diane Young**
- 10 years (2012) - Carolyn Bamford, Lea Kushner, Pearl Meulemans, FOO Lolly Bomholt**
- 15 years (2007) - Martha Claussen, Mary Schieferecke**
- 20 years (2002) - Jackie Howland, Sue Slaby, Jeanette Thompson**
- 25 years (1997) - Joyce Thomson**
- 30 years (1993) - Pat Dutton, Cindy Eley, Sheryl Overton, Claire Young**



<b>Marilyn Hodges</b>	<b>11/1</b>
<b>Carol West</b>	<b>11/19</b>
<b>Nancy DeNiro</b>	<b>11/22</b>
<b>Patty Adams</b>	<b>11/22</b>
<b>Jackie Howland</b>	<b>11/23</b>
<b>Diane Young</b>	<b>11/24</b>
<b>Sally Evans</b>	<b>11/27</b>
<b>Nancy O'Brien</b>	<b>11/28</b>

## A Whole Lot of TOC Fun for Halloween!

For the October 27 evening meeting, a lot of strange looking people started showing up to sign in. Lots of fun costumes to celebrate Halloween, and everyone enjoyed hot cider, cookies and sweets galore before and during the meeting.

**Shermalee announced the winner of the “guess the seeds in Miss Pumpkin” contest that started 2 weeks before.** Members paid to guess the amount, looking to split the proceeds 60/40. Shermalee and Pearl cleaned her out, and counted every seed to the total of 513. Sue Morgan guessed the closest, and donated her winnings back to the club, so Miss Pumpkin brought \$230 to our treasury!



4 Top Winners!



Can't wait until next year!

## Bucket Books Bring Joy to Mission Viejo First Graders! Nancy O'Brien

On October 26, four classes of Mission Viejo first grade students were delighted to hear TOC Optimist Club members **Judith Barrow, Loretta Blessinger, Marilyn Bower, Laura Hoch, Kathy Jenkins, Nancy O'Brien, Sheryl Overton, and Sherry Pearn** read them the story about the wonders of filling imaginary buckets with kindness and love. **Nancy DeNiro** was able to capture the moments of excitement as she went from room to room taking photos of the fun.



The enthusiastic and well-mannered children were pleased to hear about ways they could either fill or empty their own buckets and those of others. Many eager students had stories to tell about how they'd been able to fill buckets as well as how someone had emptied their bucket. (Oh, those brothers!!!)



The high point of the morning came when the first graders heard they were each going to get their very own copy of the book!!



Well done, Optimists! Whether you were there or not, you all can take credit for being very special bucket fillers!!!!



## Girls on the Go (GOG) Kathy Sullivan

If you have never been to the **American Museum of Western Art**, you must put it on your agenda. The museum is located in the historic Navarre Building. To refresh your Colorado History, the Navarre House started as a school and ended up as a House for Prostitution. It is across the street from the Brown Palace, and there is an underground tunnel that connects the two. You make your own conclusion what that was used for!

We were scheduled for a self guided tour, but a tour canceled so we were able to have a guided tour. Our tour guide was wonderful! This is the permanent home for the Anschutz Collection. There are over 300 paintings on display by more than 180 different artists. This collection gives people a better understanding and appreciation of the history and beauty of the American West over time. One area were paintings from Taos Art Society.

As I walked into one area, I found a few paintings that looked very familiar to me. They were by Birger Sandzen, an American painter that was born in Sweden. He did most of this work while teaching at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas. There were a few paintings by Remington, Russell and Fredrick.

After the tour, we all enjoyed a delightful lunch at La Loma Mexican Restaurant next door to the Museum.



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## 1st Graders at Holm ES Get the Bucket Books on October 28

A big thank you to **Patty Adams, Marilyn Bower, Martha Classen, Diane Young, Sally Evans, Karen Somes, and Barb Althouse** for bringing a lot of smiles to Holm 1st graders! They read "Have You Filled A Bucket Today?" and presented 73 students with the book.

One student was so excited to show us the book we gave her last year in kindergarten (pictured with the Seuss book). Thank you Tamarac for supporting this project!



## Flower Project Continues



**Loretta Blessinger** leads the Flower Project. When flowers are donated after events at the Art Museum, and other similar places, these ladies repurpose the stems into arrangements that are delivered to retirement centers for their enjoyment. Thanks to **Mary G, Judith B, Nancy K, and Judy H!**

Loretta has an ongoing need for small vases, jars, and clean cans that are suitable for small flower arrangements.

## Wreaths Across America - Linda Williams

You can remember fallen U.S. Veterans and help Gateway Optimist Club by sponsoring a wreath at Fairmount Cemetery. The sponsorship form is attached with the \$15 payment instructions. I'm happy to collect the forms and checks to deliver to Gateway.

If you prefer to signup online, go to [www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org](http://www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org). Once there, you'll see a button to SPONSOR WREATHS, click instead on Local Sponsorship Group below that button. On the subsequent page, choose the number of wreaths you would like to sponsor and then put CO0141P on the line for Select Group to Support. The code links the wreath to Gateway and will ensure we have the wreath to place at Fairmount in December. Click on Review my Sponsorships to complete the transaction.



*.AN OLD- FASHIONED HOLIDAY CELEBRATION*



*Members, Join us on December 8*

*6:00pm*

*Jeanette's Clubhouse*

*11700 E Yale Way, Aurora*

*Good food and Great fun!*

*Menu:*

*Roast Turkey Breast*

*Baked Ham*

*Scalloped Potatoes*

*Cranberry Salad*

*Rolls*

*Pecan and Pumpkin Pie*

*Wine, Sparkling Cider*

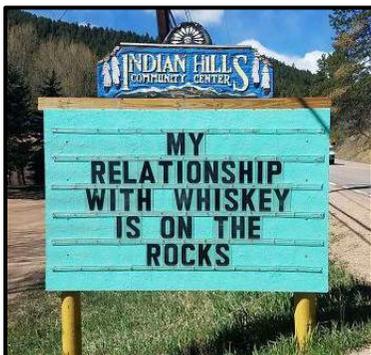
*Bring a Holiday card to share.*

*\$20. Per person*

*RSVP by November 17 and Pay Nancy DeNiro by cash, check, or Venmo*



## Feel Good Page for Pun Lovers...



*This is the editor's favorite*

