

For the future!



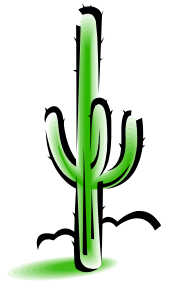
Spring Issue - April 2024

THE SOUTHERNOR



California South District #41

Optimist International



CALSO GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Hello fellow Optimist (with a big "O")!

We have some very exciting news! We have a new club! Mountain Empire Optimist Club will serve Jacumba, Campo, Boulevard, and surrounding areas for anyone that wishes to be an Optimist. Congratulations President **Deborah** (Debbie) **Gonzales** and team! We are all here to support you. Thank you to **Eva Mead** for pulling the group together and having all the paper work well organized, **Diana Drummey**, Optimist VP West Coast Region 7, for all of her support, and **Jim Boyd**, Director of Strategic Growth Optimist International, for his attendance, direction and support for making sure everything is done that is needed to start a club.



There has been a change in venue with our 3rd Quarterly (May 4th) which traditionally holds the District Oratorical contest. It will **not** be at King Chavez Elementary but will now be at the Santee Civic Center, located at 10601, Building 8P, Magnolia Ave, Santee, from 9:00 AM -1:45 PM, with the doors opening at 8:00, with a light breakfast of coffee, juice, donuts. A lunch will also be served. More information will follow. The contest will begin around 9:15 AM with the contestants to sign in at 8:30AM. Just give me a call, text, or email if you have any questions.

Zones should have their contest results in to Diana Drummey by April 17th.

I wanted to send out a few reminders as the year rolls around.

* Please remember to take the club training for President, Secretary, Treasurer or Secretary/Treasurer, and Foundation Rep. Even if you have taken it other years it is needed each year. It only takes a few minutes: Go to Optimist Institute—log in; on the left side is Courses—once there look for your prospective training.

* I know there is a club out there that would like to be the first to support the CARE program. This program has been designed help clubs determine what they are doing well and to also engage it's members on where changes may be needed to make improvements for increasing their club membership.

* Please help by volunteering to be a Facilitator for the CARE program. We are in need of 2-3 Facilitators.

* Optimist International Convention will be in Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada from June 22nd-June 26th. There is time to get your passport. Early bird registration is now open.

* Be sure to work on your Bylaws if you haven't started. A template has been developed for your use. All items in Bold on the Bylaws template must be added to your Bylaws. You can then keep, add or subtract any other items that are specific to your club. What I learned was many of our current Bylaw items are actually Policies and will moved to that area and removed from the updated Bylaws. Go to Optimist Leader and log in; go to your club; hit the Reports icon and scroll down to Club Bylaws on line. Eddie Murphy has been helping clubs work on updating their Bylaws with great success. Please contact me if you would like to contact him or are having any difficulty.

Remember to: To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

Respectfully, Debbie Munoz, Governor District 41
2023-2024 -- 619-871-7251

debsmile@gmail.com



New Mountain Empire Optimist Club

Ask Someone To Be An Optimist Member



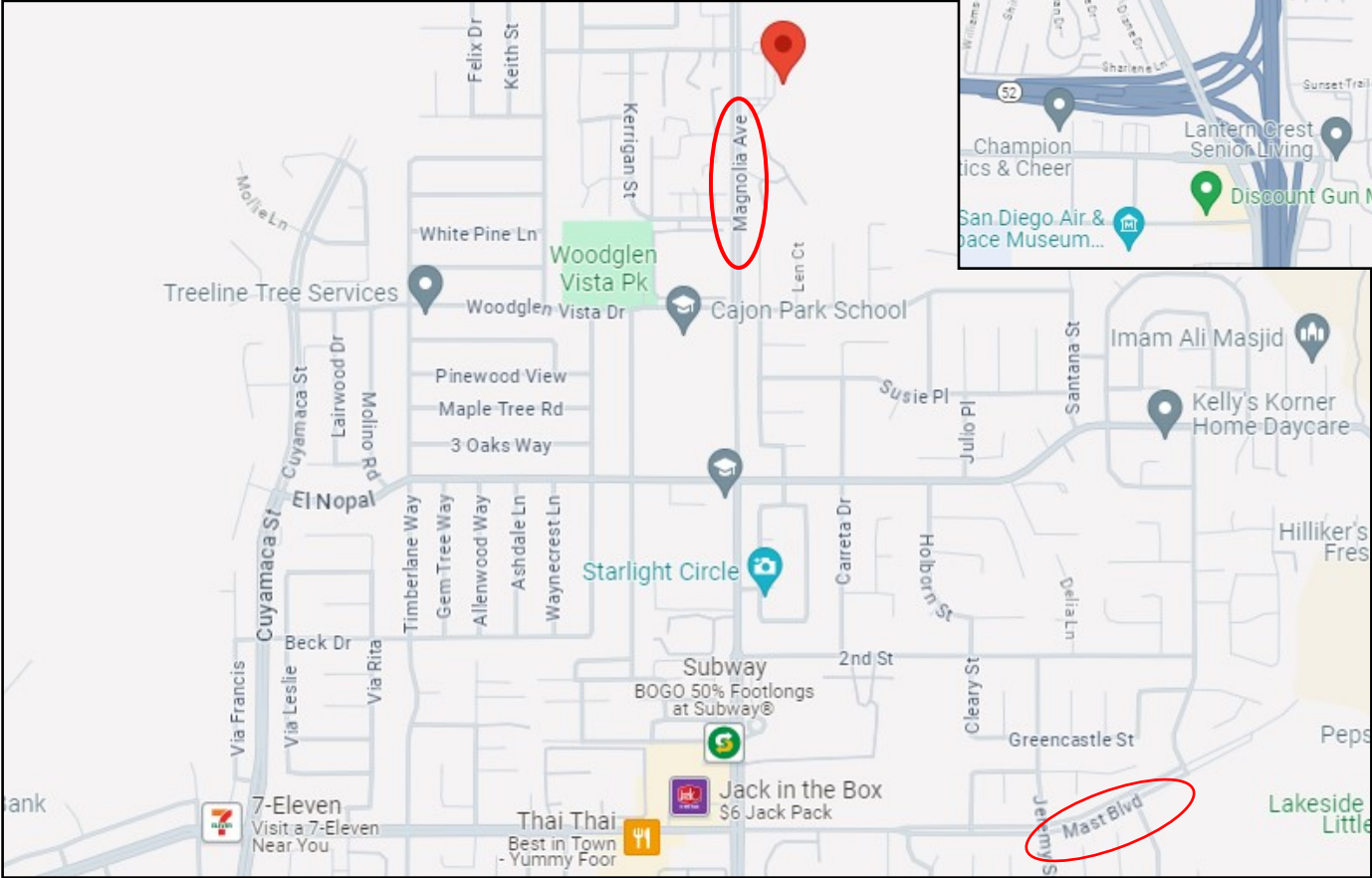
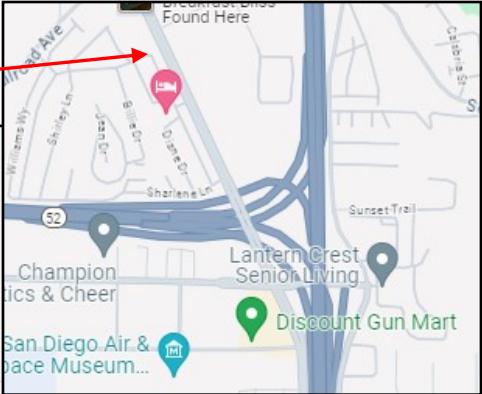
Ray's Comedy Corner in Memory of Ray Naud

CALSO District 3rd Quarterly Meeting

Saturday May 4th - 9 am

3rd District Quarterly Meeting 8:30 - ORATORICAL and CCDHH FINALS START AT 9 AM @ - Santee Civic Center, located at 10601, Building 8P, Magnolia Ave, Santee. From 9:00 AM - 1:45 PM, with the doors opening at 8:00. Light breakfast of coffee, juice, donuts. A lunch will also be served. More information will follow. The contest will begin around 9:15 AM with the contestants to sign in at 8:30AM.

Magnolia Ave. can be reach at the junction of Hwy 52 & 67



Del Mar-Solana Beach Optimists

Fellow Optimists and Friends,

On December 13, 2023, a group of 41 Cub Scouts from Pack 734, Sponsored by the Del Mar - Solana Beach Optimist Club, were awarded their Bobcat Badge, the first rank earned by a Cub Scout, in a ceremony held at the Solana Pacific Elementary School. The Cub Scouts were in the 1st through 4th grades as they received their awards. Pack 734 consists of boys and girls and has over 100 members. There is a link in the forwarded message below to the article and photo that was featured in the local newspapers on December 20, 2023.



Many thanks to our Optimist Club Liaison, **Caryn McCall**, for her work with Cub Scout Pack 734 and her updates on their activities. Photo Credit - **Wei Chen**.

Optimistically, **Jim Parrotte** Secretary, Del Mar - Solana Beach Optimist Club



Solana Beach Optimist Club sponsored Cub Scout Pack 734 activities. The Pack held their annual Pinewood Derby on January 28th .

The Scouts also met with San Diego District 1 City Councilmember **Joe LaCava** on January 30th engaging Councilmember LaCava (pictured) on topics that ranged from traffic flow and local park concerns to preparedness for heavy rains and wildfires. It was a wonderful opportunity for the scouts to interact with a civic leader. Cub Scout Pack 734 now includes over 100 boys and girls in its membership.



The newly Chartered Junior Optimist Club at Solana Pacific Elementary School has grown from its original Charter Membership group of 16 members on December 19, 2023, to a current membership of 109 members from the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades. This group is very active and is preparing more community service projects in addition to their recently completed "Project Pillowcase" through Operation Gratitude, which is a charitable organization that supports our troops. The Junior Optimists decorated pillowcases to be donated to troops who have been deployed without pillowcases. The Junior Optimists also completed a "Gift Bag" project before the yearend holidays.



Del Mar-Solana Beach Optimists

CITY OF SOLANA BEACH

PROCLAMATION

OPTIMIST DAY

The First Thursday of every February

WHEREAS, Volunteers working with young people who are our joy of today and are 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, and;

WHEREAS, Members of Optimist International will celebrate OPTIMIST DAY throughout the world the first Thursday of every February to promote their efforts in helping and recognizing the young people that make a difference in their communities and who will encourage a greater exchange of ideas between young people and adults, and;

WHEREAS, There are 2400 Optimist Clubs, with more than 70,000 Members, in Optimist International and Optimist members throughout the world that carry out more than 6500 service projects that serve six million young people a year;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Lesa Heebner, Mayor of the City of Solana Beach, issue this Proclamation declaring the first Thursday of every February as Optimist Day in the City of Solana Beach. May this day instill pride in our city's Optimists for all their accomplishments and for the impact they have to truly make a difference in others' lives.

Dated this 1st day of February 2024.



Lesa Heebner, Mayor

Jewel Edson
Deputy Mayor, District 3

Jill MacDonald
Councilmember, District 4

Kristi Becker
Councilmember, District 2

David A. Zito
Councilmember, District 1



Del Mar-Solana Beach Optimists

Saturday, March 9, 2024, was Opening Day for the Miracle League of San Diego Spring Baseball Season with the event held at the Engel Family Field in Solana Beach, CA. Following the Opening Day Ceremony, teams played short games and had team photos taken with team sponsors, coaches, and buddies. The Del Mar - Solana Beach Optimist Club sponsors Team Smith each season. Club President, **Joe Kellejian**, and Club Member, **Jane Fraser**, represented the Club at the Opening Day Ceremony and team games. The Miracle League of San Diego provides opportunities for children challenged with disabilities to participate in baseball games on modified baseball fields specially equipped to safely accommodate their play.

Submitter by - **Jim Parrotte**



Optimist Club Logo on display at Miracle League of San Diego Opening Day.



Optimist Club sponsored Team Smith at Opening Day event with Club President, Joe Kellejian



Optimist Club President, Joe Kellejian, with Club-sponsored Team Smith players at Engel Family Field



Optimist Club President, Joe Kellejian, with Club-sponsored Team Smith player wearing game jersey

Two Optimist Clubs Join Forces

On the evening of March 21st, the Optimist Club of Allied Gardens and the Sunrise Club joined forces to host the Club Oratorical Contest. Club members, contestants, and parents gathered at Foster Elementary School for this years contest. All together from both club, six young people competed in the contest. With just six, all of them won an award.

Members from both clubs joined in the various jobs to make this a very successful oratorical. **Candice Dodge** from the Allied Gardens Club, organized and made arrangements for judges, time keepers, refreshments, and all the incidentals for a successful Oratorical. **Chuck Cadwalader** from Allied Gardens was the MC for the evening.

This years club contestants where younger, 4th and 5th graders except for one 17 year old teenage young man. It was wonderful to see and hear all the effort that these young people put into their speeches. It's always gratifying to know that there are young people growing up to be fine young adults.

The top two winners from each club will move on to the Zone Contest.



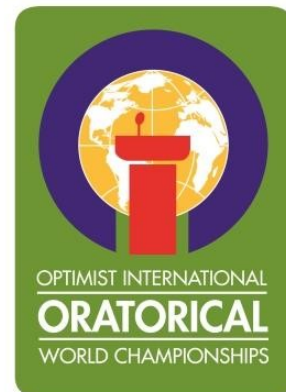
Sunrise Club Winners

1st place to 3rd - left to right



Allied Garden Club Winners

1st place to 3rd - left to right



JOI Club News



It was a beautiful day on Saturday, March 16, 2024, at the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument on the Naval Amphibious Base in Coronado, CA where California South Junior Optimist District JOI Club Members, Advisors, Chaperones, and Support Staff participated in a JOI District Meeting, tour, and service project. A retired U.S. Navy Seal Team Member, "Chuck", gave an interesting talk regarding the Monument and instructed the assembled Junior Optimists on how to go about cleaning the static small craft displays located at the Monument. The Junior Optimists mopped, cleaned windows, and shined parts of the static boat displays guided by volunteer members of the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Maintenance Crew.



Following completion of their service project, the Junior Optimists held elections for JOI District Officers for the 2024-2025 Optimist Year. **Sydney Mafong**, The Bishop's School, was elected JOI District Governor. **Ava Khossravi**, Canyon Crest Academy, and Abigail Pearson, Coronado High School, were elected to Lt. Governor positions.



Following the elections, several ideas were discussed for a Districtwide community service project. The Junior Optimists chose making Gift Bags for Meals on Wheels recipients. This project can be done during a school meeting and it's easy for students to bring one or two of the inexpensive items requested for the Gift Bags and then to assemble the Gift Bags as a Club project.



After the completion of the business meeting, everyone enjoyed eating a pizza and cookies luncheon provided by the California South Optimist District. Fun icebreakers followed. One icebreaker involved pairing two Junior Optimists and one was to give instructions of an animal to draw by their partner, without saying the name of the animal. Hilarious! They really had a lot of laughs with that one!

Many thanks to members of the Vietnam Unit Memorial Monument Maintenance Team, Navy Seal Chuck, the JOI Club Advisors, chaperones, and support staff that made this event possible, successful, and a lot of fun!



Allied Gardens Club News

Small Business Outreach of the Month: This week, I stopped by HomeStreet Bank, a locally managed and operated bank branch in Allied Gardens and Grantville. I sat down with **Chuck Cadwalader**, Senior Branch Manager, for a good conversation about infrastructure and community needs. Thank you Chuck and the entire team for hosting me for a great visit.

Raul Campillo - 7th District



Allied Gardens Club member, Chuck Cadwalader is interviewed by Raul Campillo, City of San Diego Council Member - 7th District

Coronado Optimist Club News

Souper Bowl of Caring

The Coronado High and Middle school Junior Optimist clubs of Coronado, CA collected 1345 items and \$205 cash. The majority of our collections went to the Coronado Baptist Church who donates to homeless and several organizations that assist low income families.



More Allied Gardens Club News

On the morning of March 21st, the Allied Gardens Optimist Club hosted the Freedom’s Foundation Fly Away Breakfast. Around 30 to 40 people including 15 students, some parents, trip chaperons, Optimist Club members, and local Freedom Foundation representatives attended the annual event. Each year the Allied Gardens Club helps to sponsor students to attend the event at Valley Forge. To give you an idea about the trip, here is the mission statement from the Freedom Foundation



Fly Away Students and their chaperone

“We provide stimulating, immersive educational experiences for students and teachers, inspiring them to discover the spirit and philosophy of our nation’s founding charters and ideals, embrace the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and preserve and advance our freedoms.”

It’s an opportunity for the students to visit historical sites and will learn about democracy, the judiciary, the political process, the founding documents, and the free enterprise system through innovative workshops and historical site visits that allow them to encounter our nation’s past, present, and future. During there residential stay, they will also build leadership skills, engage in civil discourse, and identify how they can positively impact your community.

Allied Gardens is proud to be involved in this civic opportunity.



Event MC - Bill Glover



Club President **Dave Dickson** & member **Dick McCormick** prepare for a free raffle



Hungary Students have breakfast





BONITA OPTIMIST CLUB

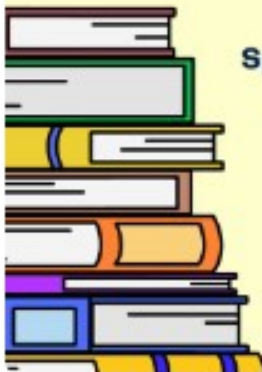
BOOK DONATION DROPOFF

Your support benefits the youth and young adults in the community.

**EVERY 2ND THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH**
8:00 AM TO 9:30 AM

PROVENCE HOUSE
4370 SWEETWATER RD.
BONITA, CA 91902

Special pick-up arrangements can be made
Email: bonitaoptimistsclub@gmail.com





**OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

Dime-A-Day

Optimist 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



POSTAGE

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 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.




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