



# BAY CITY NOON OPTIMIST Newsletter

## "Optimist International's Club of The Year, 2013-2014"

Official Publication of the Bay City Noon Optimist Club

September 30 and Oct 7, 2025

Meetings Every Tuesday, Paul Davis Restoration 12:15 p.m.



Representatives of our Sister City Ansbach, Germany, with BCNOC Members Lisa Forrest, and Kathy Dardas



Sculpture at the 'Ansbach Platz' in Uptown Bay City, designed by the students of Bay/Arenac ISD and spearheaded by the Leadership Bay County class of 2022, a program BCNOC has supported for many years.

### October 21, 2025:

Our program today was lunch at the Bay Arenac ISD with representatives of our sister city Ansbach, Germany. Lunch was made, and served, by the Students of the Culinary Arts of the Bay/Arenac ISD's Blooming Chefs Restaurant, and it was delicious!!! Our own BCNOC member **James Tromba Jr** is an alumnus of this program.

The meeting itself revolved around the exchange programs of not only the students, but the representatives themselves, which BCNOC members **Lisa Forrest** and Past President **Kathy Dardas** have participated in. Also, I was pleasantly surprised by the number of our BCNOC member families that have participated over the years in the student exchange programs of various countries.

Now in its 64th year as being the Sister City of Ansbach, Germany, Bay City is currently in the planning stage of setting up another exchange program between the two cities. Ansbach is in Bavaria, and lies about 90 miles north of Munich.

In 2022 Bay City unveiled the "Two Cities Connect" sculpture in Uptown Bay City at the "Ansbach Platz". The sculpture is made up of a split globe connected by a large metal arch, uniting Bay City and its sister city Ansbach, Germany together as one. Designed by the students of the Bay Arenac ISD, and spearheaded by the Leadership Bay County, Class of 2022, BCNOC is a long time supporter of Leadership Bay County, and has, and had, many graduates of the program as members.

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### October 14

#### PROGRAM

Today's program was with **Kathy Dardas** and **Karen Monville** presenting about the Optimist International Institute, a learning resource for all Optimist members, and it is free of charge to all members. Consisting of just under 200 courses, it takes in everything from Optimist programs, whether it be club, or International, related or personal or private business leadership, basic excel, and beyond basic excel, Roberts Rules of Order, personal development, etc. To sign up you need to go to: <https://optimist.tovuti.io/> If you need help registering, do not hesitate to contact me.

#### October Birthdays

October 11: Faith Sheldon

October 11: Jennifer Sugden

October 23: Patrick Rokosz

October 25: Guy Greve

October 25: Patti Krenz

Remember to check out our social media sites:

Face Book: [Bay City Noon Optimist](#) Web page: [baycitynoonoptimist.org](http://baycitynoonoptimist.org)

We also inducted two new members today: **Beth Trahan** and **Julie Kukla**. When you meet them congratulate them on joining one of the Premier Organizations working with kids.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Fellowship Committee

On October 21st, BCNOC held another "Game Night" at the Tri-city Brewery for our members and guests, and we had a pretty good turnout, around 20, thereabouts total, and while Kirsten won't be able to retire on her winnings, she at least won enough to buy a drink

### Fellowship Committee (continued)

On November 30th, we will be hosting our annual BCNOC Members and guests Christmas Party at the Bangor Township Hall. You need not have children, or Grand Children to come and enjoy this party, but if you do, please let us know the age, and whether a boy or girl, so we can let Santa know. This will be a Pot Luck dinner and the club will provide the meat and beverages. As per BCNOC policy, we do not allow alcohol when children are present at our functions. Please stay tuned for more information on this event.

November's *Bay Area Chamber After Hours* will be held on November 20th at Vinny's Pizzeria in Up-town

### Camel Race Committee

The 8th Annual Camel Race Fundraiser is approaching quickly, and as I like to say, while it does have legs of its own, we still need to push, and sell, more tickets. In my opinion, what we lack is a means of getting contact information of those attending so we can contact them for next year's races. Everyone that attends seems to enjoy themselves, what with the food, the excitement of gambling, the fellowship, the drinks, etc. If you have any ideas, please share them with us.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President Kirsten:** Our meeting on October 28 will be a little different than in the past. We will be holding our Board Meeting as a program, as well as inducting more of our new members. We will also have a visit by this year's *Michigan District Governor of Optimist International*, **Dave Putt**, and his wife **Diane**.

**Guy:** Our first Film of this year's Travelogue series is fast approaching, with November 17th being the date of our first show, when we will be going on a cruise across the Mediterranean. All shows will be held at the Bay City State Theatre. More information is available on our website, as well as Facebook.

**Sandy D:** This year's BCNOC Oratorical Contest is now going on with the deadline being February 16, 2026, as we have to have the names of our winners submitted to the Michigan District by February 28th. This year's topic is: *"The Moment I Realized I belonged — My Definition Of Community"*. Applications can be found on our Website.

### 50/50 and QUARTER CUP DRAWING



**Mary Klepser** was not present to collect her winnings in the 50/50 and **Natalie Beyer**.. drew the wrong card, so as in the past, the pot continues to grow

### HAPPY BUCKS, JUST BECAUSE, AND FINES

**Sandy V:** It is a Beautiful Day

**Paul:** Able to play with his Grandson

**Julie:** For the warm weather

**Dana, Guy, Karen:** For New Members inducted today

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## VENMO

*Venmo is an electronic means of transferring money via your phone from one individual to another and is very easy to use. Our Club now offers this payment option to our members and I've learned that many of you are already familiar with this service. There is no charge for the transfer for the sender or the receiver. You can use this method of payment instead of writing a check for any payment you would be making to our Club. On Venmo our Club name is **Bay City Optimists BOC**. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Karen*

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# The Optimist Creed

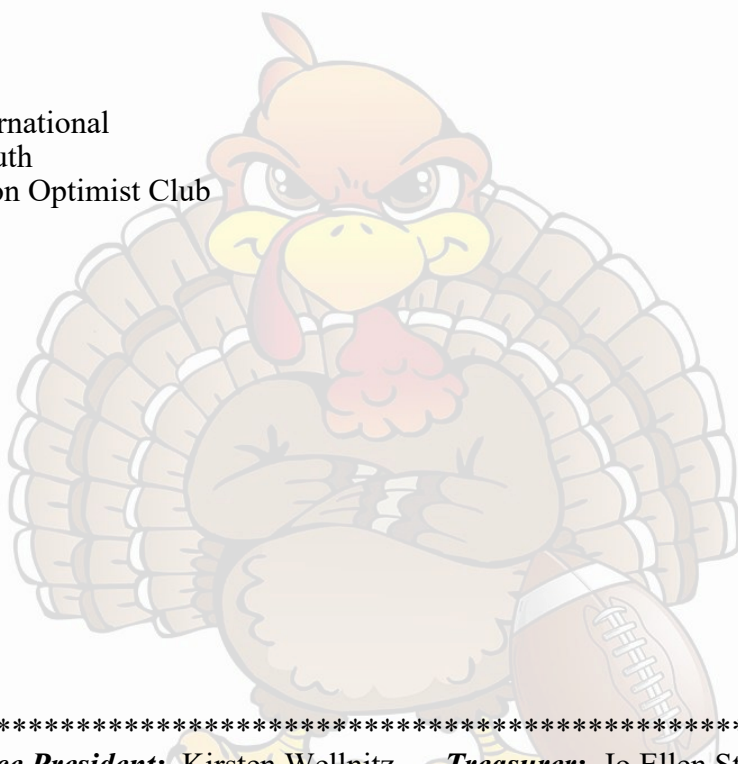
*To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.  
To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.  
To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.  
To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.  
To think only of the best, 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 to large for worry, to noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble*

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Optimist International  
Friend of Youth  
Bay City Noon Optimist Club



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**President:** Kathy Dardas **Vice President:** Kirsten Wellnitz **Treasurer:** Jo Ellen Strieter  
**Secretary:** Katie Volk **Past President:** Alicia Wallace

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## Board of Directors

| 2025-2027       |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Karen Monville  | Roberta Spencer   |
| Jeff Staudacher | Jo Ellen Strieter |

| 2024-2026       |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Kate Young      | Rick Wallace  |
| Sandy Dabrowski | Bobbi Gellise |

**Programs:** Roberta Spencer

**Essay:** Patti Krenz

**Camel Races:** Bobbi Gellise & Karen Monville

**Summer Party:**

**Oratorical:** Sandy Dabrowski

**Travel and Adventure:** Guy Greve

**Youth Appreciation:** Kirsten Wellnitz

**Christmas Party:** Bobbi Gellise

**Bulletin:** Dana & Karen Monville

**Web Site:** Dana Monville

**Facebook:** Roberta Spencer

**Golf Outing:** Roberta Spencer