



BAY CITY NOON OPTIMIST Newsletter
“*Optimist International’s Club of The Year, 2013-2014*”
Official Publication of the *Bay City Noon Optimist Club*
September 2, 2025
Meetings Every Tuesday, Paul Davis Restoration 12:15 p.m.



September 2, 2025:

It was a very informative meeting today, with **Lindsay Richardson** from the *Bay Area Women’s Center* presenting. **Lindsay** gave some rather startling numbers (in my opinion), on the number of personal assaults, whether domestic, sexual, personal, or Spousal Rape (spousal rape was new to me, as I never heard of this form of abuse, so I guess maybe the old adage “Old dogs can learn new tricks” might have some truth to it.) A couple of the figures that **Lindsay***, and figures from their website**, gave us

*One in three girls(women), and one in 4 men, will experience Domestic Abuse by the time they turn 18:

**Child sexual abuse is occurring in pandemic proportions and causes grave physical and psychological trauma, along with social havoc. In the United States alone, child sexual abuse affects one-third of girls and one-sixth of boys by the time they are 18 years old. Child sexual abuse (CSA) constitutes a broad range of behaviors occurring along a continuum from voyeurism to rape, and usually happens over an extended period of time. Child abuse is possible because of the differences in power and control between the offender and the victim . It is difficult to know the true extent of child sexual abuse as most child sexual abuse is never reported (due to shame, fear, stigma, manipulation, and other factors) The information that does get reported can look quite different depending on who is reporting it, for example whether recounted by a child to various authorities as opposed to by an adult who has found out as a result of trauma or pregnancy. Also, authorities often minimize or dismiss the abuse reported, blame the victim, and/or protect the abuser. Only one in 10 children in the United States actually let someone know that it has occurred. We also know that more than two-fifths of women and more than one-third of men who have been sexually abused in the United States never disclose the experience to anyone.

Other forms of abuse include: Elder, Teen Dating Violence, Stalking, and Human Trafficking, and other forms

Again, this was a program that you had to be at to appreciate everything that **Lindsay** shared with us, which was a whole lot more then what I put in print. I also found that visiting the website, reading their information, and following some of the links they provide exposed me to information that probably 90+% of women know, but I suspect probably a high percentage of men do not know. Some might find it boring, but it opened my eyes.

Bay Area Women’s Center is celebrating 50 yares of providing Domestic Violence, and sexual abuse services in Bay and Arenac Counties. Counseling, Support Groups, and Advocacy Services are available free of charge for victims of domestic violence, or sexual abuse regardless of their age, gender, or background. They will be having their fundraiser Wednesday, October 8th at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Bay City. The cost is \$30 per person, or \$250 for a table of 10, which will bring the cost down to \$25 per person. Several attendees at the club luncheon expressed an interest in going to this event. If you are interested, please contact Karen at 989-992-6709 or noonoptimists@sbcglobal.net to let her know and she will coordinate making the reservations. For each 10 individuals that we have, we can get a table at the reduced price. This event is not just for women - men are invited also. For more information on joining the BCNOC at this event, please contact Karen. More information can be had by visiting our website and viewing the flyer on our opening page under “*Programs We Support*”

For more information you can visit their website at: <https://www.bawc-mi.org/> or contact their 24 hour hotline at **800-834-2098** if you feel you are in need of immediate help.

ANOUNCEMENTS

Guy; Our first Travel and Adventure Series show for this year will be on November 17 at the Bay City State Theatre. Plan on joining us as we travel to the Mediterranean with Marlin Darrah, considered to be the most traveled filmmaker

Roberta: Fellowship at Baynes Apple Orchard. September Date TBA

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 13: Paul Gellise

August 15: Sue Arnold Birch

August 15: Jill Urban

August 25: Alicia Wallace

Remember to check out our social media sites:

Face Book: *Bay City Noon Optimist* Web page: *baycitynoonoptimist.org*

CLUB NEWS

Congratulations to BCNOC Vice President Kirsten Wellnitz on her promotion to *Director of all Bay County Library's*.

The BCNOC Board Meeting will be Wednesday September 17, 2025 at Bay Arenac ISD

The Birthday Party at The Mission will be Wednesday, September 17. Help is always needed, and there can NEVER be too much help!!

50/50 and NAME DRAWING

Branden Minuth was not present to collect his "Quarter Cup" winnings, and Jeff drew the wrong card. So both pots continue to grow.

JUST BECAUSE - FINES - HAPPY BUCKS

Happy Buck:

Karen: Same as Bobbi's

Bobbi: President Kathy's Fellowship Party

Patti: Ditto above

Kate: 20 year anniversary of her membership in the BCNOC

Julie K: Great week

Guy: Travel and Adventure Series SponsorshipLindsay: Happy to present todays program

Lindsay: Happy to present todays program to us/

Roberta: Won a ticket to the Women's Center Fundraiser

Beth: For the fabulous rendition of Happy Birthday from the BCNOC members

Fines:

Alicia:: Her phone rang during the meeting

Karen: See Alicia's fine:

Just Because

Karen

Jeff

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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*

Beth T. looking Lovely in her "Birthday Bonnet"



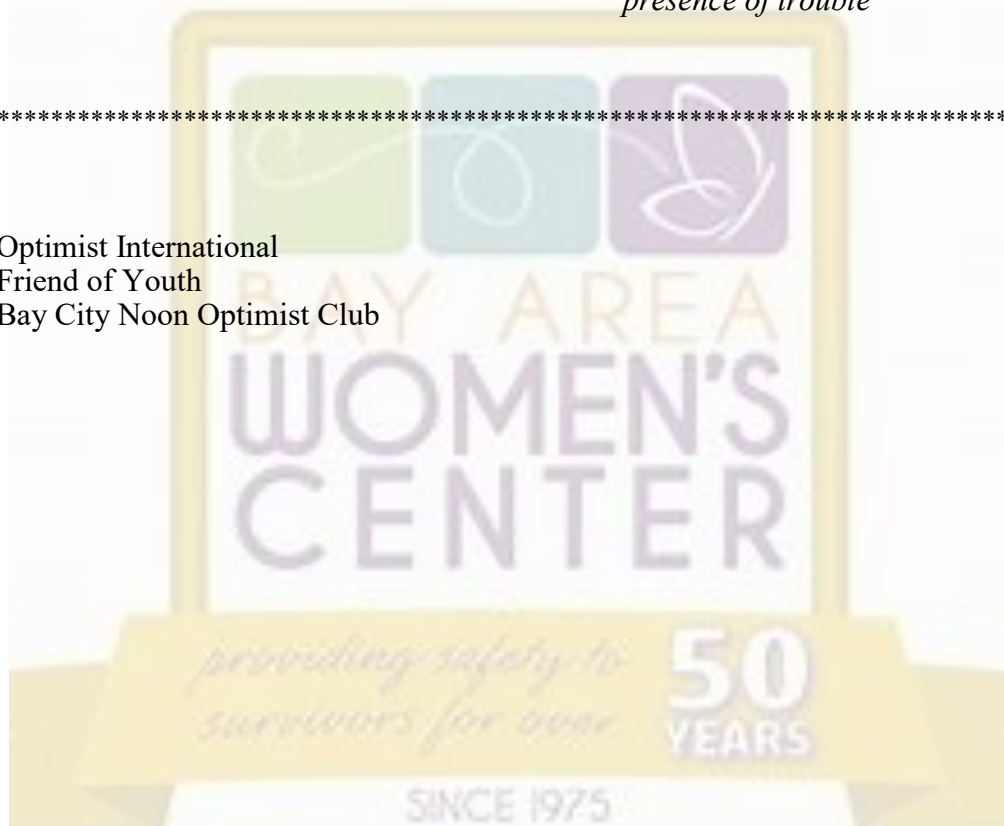
The Optimist Creed

*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*



Optimist International
Friend of Youth
Bay City Noon Optimist Club



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

Board of Directors

2023-2025	
Karen Monville	Roberta Spencer
Patti Krenz	Dana Monville

2024-2026	
Kate Young	Jessica Gohs
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

N.O.W Program:

Golf Outing: Roberta Spencer