



**Announcing Our Joint 1st Quarter Conference for 2025-2026 with West MO  
& So Much More**

*Let's soar together at our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Conference!*

Oct. 3-4, 2026



Capital Plaza Hotel  
415 W. McCarty St.  
Jefferson City, MO



*Meet*

OI President  
Tom Kendo  
& First Lady  
Jennifer



**Call Letter**



Joint First Quarter Conference

Oct. 3-4, 2025

Capitol Plaza Hotel

415 W. McCarty St., Jefferson City, MO 65101

Tentative Agenda

## - Means two separate meetings, one for EMO and one for WEMO

Friday –

5:30 to 7:00 – VIP Dinner on site if possible (by invitation)

7:30 to 9:00 – Welcome reception – Light Refreshments

- Play Get to Know You Bingo – 30 minutes
- Welcome from the following
  - EMO Governor Jennifer Bagwell
  - WEMO Governor Brian Mills
  - Middle America VP Liz Christman
  - OI President Tom Kendo

9:00 – OIF Fun fundraiser- Paper Airplane build and fly - Different colors for the two different districts. Winners from each district. The winners wear captain hats for the conference and wings on their name badges

The hospitality room is open until 11:00 pm.

Saturday –

7:00 to 8:00 – Past Governors Breakfast Meeting

8:15 to 8:50 – Executive Committee meetings ##

8:30 to 9:00 – First Timers Meeting

8:50 to 9:30 – Board of Directors Meetings ##

9:45 to 10:45 - General Sessions ##

11:00 to 11:50 - Be The Change, Making the most of the 25-26 year – OI President Tom and First Lady Jennifer

12:00 to 1:30 - Lunch and Message from OIF Executive Director Craig Boring, Middle America VP Liz Christman – EMO Governor Jennifer Bagwell will be the luncheon host and introduce the head table and speakers.

1:45 to 2:15 - Breakout Town Hall Meetings. People would choose one session.

- Using AI to communicate and grow the club
- OIF Grants and programs with Jennifer Kendo, OIF Board Member
- Community engagement, partnering with other organizations

2:30 to 3:45 - Breakout Town Hall Meetings/ Best Practices. People would choose one session.

- Using Optimist International contests to grow your club presence
- Spreading Optimism through new club building
  - Using new tools to grow
- Reaching all ages through member engagement tools to grow your club

4:00 to 4:30 – Governors Team Meetings ##

4:30 to 5:30 - Hall of Optimism and hospitality room

6:30 to 8:15 – Dinner and Message from OI President Tom Kendo – WEMO Governor Brian Mills will be the dinner host and introduce the head table and speaker.

- Will conduct drawings for all the raffle prizes

8:30 to 11:00 - OIF Fun fundraiser and Hospitality Room

In the hall of Optimism, there will be gift baskets for OIF fundraisers for different programs, both districts can have items to raffle, Jr. Golf fun fundraisers, and everyone can participate.

EMO meetings will use the Jefferson Rooms

WEMO meetings will be in the Truman Rooms

Registration fee is NEW **\$75** and the deadline to register is September 23rd.

Support Optimist International -  
East Missouri District

Use your phone's camera to scan the QR  
code below



Or visit:

<https://givebutter.com/1stQtrConfReg>

POWERED BY Givebutter

To register online,  
scan the QR Code  
or...

Visit <https://givebutter.com/1stQtrConfReg>

**OR**

Use the paper form below

**Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Conference with West Missouri!**

**Oct. 3-4, 2026**

**Capital Plaza Hotel**

415 W. McCarty St., Jefferson City, MO 65101

Capital Plaza Hotel room reservation call [Toll Free: \(800\) 338-8088](tel:8003388088) [Local: \(573\) 635-1234](tel:5736351234) and mention West Missouri Optimist or click this link: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/13414?groupID=4483206> Cost is \$105 per night. DEADLINE FOR THE BLOCK RATE IS SEPT. 23.

**Conference Registration Form**

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE IS NEW \$75

Deadline to register is September 23<sup>rd</sup>

Return this form to Kristin Ham, 3121 Themis St., Apt. A, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-2927. Please enclose your check payable to East Missouri Optimist District. Questions? Call Kristin 573-639-3349 or email her [ldigdirt97@gmail.com](mailto:ldigdirt97@gmail.com).

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

Food Allergies/Restrictions\_\_\_\_\_

Club Name\_\_\_\_\_ Club #30-\_\_\_\_\_

First Timer:

Yes\_\_\_No\_\_\_ Email\_\_\_\_\_

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Welcome to Your Year Governor Jennifer Bagwell!





Notes to Club Officers:

#1 Please review your club's bylaws and update them on Optimist Leaders before September 30.

#2 Please share this call letter with all of your members.

**#3 Please bring flyers & photos of past and future events to post on an event board at the Conference!**



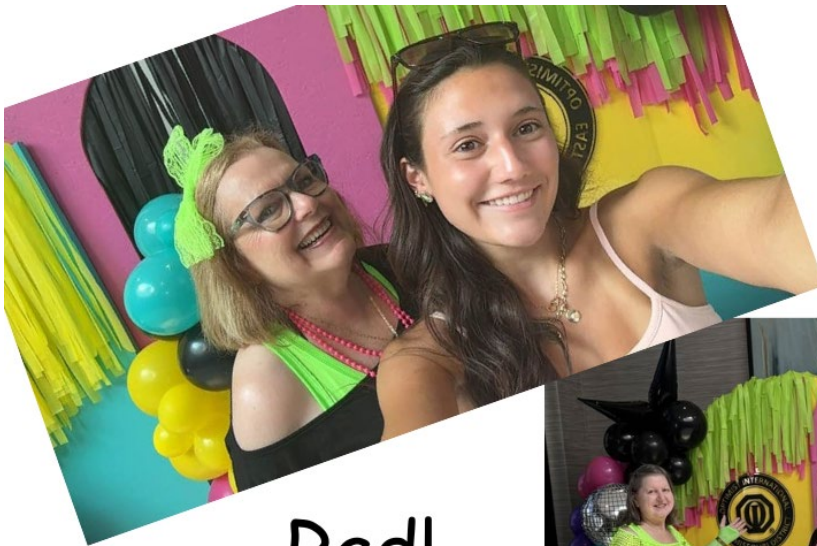
Hey everyone,

Did you have the good fortune to up one of these at our Convention, but need the logo sticker? We can help with that -bring your tiny tumbler to our Joint 1st Q Conference and we'll add the sticker!

What - didn't get one yet? Buy yours at our Conference!







Rad!

*Totally*





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Thank you Governor Boom Boom!

Your dedication and perseverance touched the members of every Optimist Club!





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### EMO Directory

Remember our District Directory is online! Just go to our [website](#) and log in to your account. Don't have an account? Email us at [emoptimstdist@gmail.com](mailto:emoptimstdist@gmail.com).



## East Missouri District - Optimist Members Only

Members be sure to join and invite other club/EMO members. We use this Facebook group to inform, share club activities, and celebrate!



It's time for all members to either register for an account (if you have **never** registered) or re-subscribe. The Institute has so much to offer! There's a media library, quick reference guide, inspiration section, new club info, a place to create and participate in group chats and even courses for officers! [Learn more.](#)

### District Events

OCTOBER 3-4, 2025

Joint Conference with  
West Missouri

FEBRUARY 6-7, 2026

2nd Quarter virtual  
conference

MAY 1-2, 2026

3rd Quarter  
Conference

JUNE \_\_\_\_, 2026

EMO Jr. Golf  
Tournament

JUNE 28 - JULY 2

OPTIMIST  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION

AUGUST 21-23, 2026  
EMO District  
Convention

NEW!

We value your opinion - What do you love about this newsletter? What do you think needs changed? Email us at [emoptimistdist@gmail.com](mailto:emoptimistdist@gmail.com) with your comments.

Scavenger hunt - can you find the paper airplane? Let us know at the hospitality room on Friday evening of our Joint Conference with West Missouri.



**TOGETHER IN  
THE FUTURE!**



### 2025-2026 Conference Dates

**1st Quarter: Oct. 3-4, 2025 JOINT CONFERENCE WITH  
WEST MO, CAPITOL PLAZA, JEFFERSON CITY**

**2nd Quarter: Feb. 6-7, 2026 Virtual**

**3rd Quarter: May 1-2, 2026 Hilton St. Louis Airport**

**4th Quarter Convention: Aug. 21-23, 2026 Comfort  
Suites, Rolla**

Why am I receiving this email?



You are receiving this because you are Member of Optimist International and within the EMO District. You agreed to Opt-in for communications during your Membership application.

If you need to have your email updated or if you no longer wish to receive such emails from our Club please email us at [emoptimistdist@gmail.com](mailto:emoptimistdist@gmail.com)

Please know if you unsubscribe or opt-out, you will no longer receive any communications regarding your submission, and important news and updates.



**Mailing address:** EMO East Missouri District, 4494 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO, 63108, US