

**ILLINOIS
DISTRICT
DIRECTORY
2016—2017**



Together We Can...
Together We Can.....

New Member Induction and Pledge

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This occasion marks the beginning of your opportunity for participating through fellowship and friendship, in the activities of your Club on behalf of your community. Through your personal service as an Optimist you will have the opportunity to help re-pay, in various ways, the debt we all owe our community for the privilege of enjoying its many benefits. You will learn the Optimist Creed and its significance, a genuine challenge to the life of all men and women. You will be inspired by our slogan, "Friend of Youth".

In all these things we seek to make our indelible mark on the life, progress and welfare of our communities, our nation and our peoples. But only by your regular attendance at meetings, and active participation in your Club's activities, can you be rewarded with a fuller life and the self-satisfaction that comes to each of us as we serve our community and its youth.

We therefore ask, as we admit you to the fellowship of Optimism, if you too, will join our company, our friendship and our fellowship, in an effort to strive toward these objectives. If you do, please answer, "I DO".

I _____ do hereby pledge / that I will do my best /at all times / to live by the spirit of the Optimist Creed / and I will also give of my time /and talents / as generously as possible / to support the activities / of my Club, /my District /and Optimist International.

Now, being aware of the responsibilities, opportunities and privileges available to you as a member, on behalf of the officers and members of the Sponsor Club, the Illinois District and Optimist International, I am happy to offer you my hand of Optimist Friendship. We are happy to have you as a member.

Your President _____ will present you with your new member kit and your membership pin. President _____ will then review the expectations of each new member to join our Optimist Club.

(If the President is conducting the Induction, the new member's sponsor could present the new member kit and their membership pin.)

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Together We Can.... Together We Can.....

OPTIMIST – One who usually expects a favorable outcome, or as Winston Churchill once said one who sees the opportunity in every difficulty. Our Illinois District is made up of approximately 1500 members. Each and every one of you became an Optimist and took the oath to fulfill your responsibilities as a club member and to achieve the purposes of your club and strive to live by the Optimist Creed. Accomplishing that is probably quite easy when done by yourself, but how effective is it? As a club all members need to participate to some extent in order to accomplish the goals set to benefit the kids. The more club members the more help; the more kids will benefit. Optimist clubs have been around for over 100 years and Optimist International is quickly approaching that as well. For anything to withstand 100 years you need the work of many people. As your Governor I am asking each of you to help and bring in 1 member to your club this year. I am asking you to search and find that one person who has the love and desire of an Optimist and bring them into your club. Give them a job and watch what amazing help they will bring to your club. By doing this we will become a more powerful District and benefit the over 600,000 children currently living in poverty in Illinois alone. We may have all joined our clubs for many different reasons but I believe the reasons we all renew may be the same. Whether it be our friends, the activities or the children we benefit – all the reasons are good. Please consider bringing in that one person who can then share those same great experiences as you. Help find that one person who believes that the children of today will be the Optimists and Leaders of tomorrow. Do this not for me but for the kids. I in turn will do and work very hard this year as the Governor of Illinois to help each and every one of you as a cheerleader, sounding board, marketing and promotional liaison, worker or,,,,, because TOGETHER WE CAN make a difference in the lives of all children.

**ILLINOIS OPTIMIST
SCHEDULE OF CONFERENCES AND CONVENTION
2016-2017**

**The Chateau
1621 Jumer Drive
Bloomington, IL 61704
(309) 622-2020**



OCTOBER 21 & 22, 2016

Halloween Theme – come dressed on Saturday in your favorite Costume -

JANUARY 20 & 21, 2017

Jimmy Buffett Margaritaville – WWJD – “*What Would Jimmy Do*” – come dressed appropriately and party!

APRIL 28 AND 29, 2017

**DISTRICT ORATORICAL, ESSAY AND
POSTER CONTESTS – WEAR YOUR MOST
INTERESTING HAT – LET YOUR CONTEST**

**AUGUST 4, 5 AND 6, 2017
(DISTRICT CONVENTION)**

Governors Banquet!

Murder Mystery – Can you solve who dun it??????

Leadership

Optimist International and Illinois District

Illinois District Governor

Ruth Del Re
649 E Eisenhower Ave
Palatine, IL 60074
847-824-7050 (W)
847-571-8985 (C)
ruthdelre@sbcglobal.net

Illinois Assistant Governor

Barb Reich
1545 Laurel Ave.
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-945-1955 (H)
847-848-3048 (C)
barbreich@gmail.com

Illinois Governor Elect

Optimist International President

Jim Kondrasuk
4705 Monona Drive
Monona, WI 53716
608-310-4200 (W)
608-609-7888 (C)
jwkswis@gmail.com

International Vice President

Chuck Davis
4297 Kerr Drive
Hilliard, OH 43026
614-557-0881
cdavis1617@gmail.com

District Secretary/Treasurer

William Powell
129 Oaklawn Avenue
Oswego, IL 60543
(630) 554-2798 (H)
(630) 347-2798 (C)
billmar444@aol.com

Immediate Past Governor

Stephen Turner
600 S Clay Street
Taylorville, IL 62568
217-481-6383 (C)
stegeot@ctifiber.com

Past Governor

Bill West
PO Box 323
St. David, IL 61863
309-573-7345 (C)
bill.west63@yahoo.com

Executive Director

Benny Ellerbe (Carol)
4494 Lindell Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
800-500-8130 (W)
(314) 371-6006 (F)
ellerbeb@optimist.org

ILLINOIS DISTRICT REPORT AND DEADLINE SCHEDULE

2016		CLUB	LT. GOV
Sept. 1	Begin Essay Contest preparation with schools	X	
Sept. 1	Begin Oratorical Contest preparation with schools	X	
Sept. 14	Deadline for 1st quarter Bulletin submissions	X	X
Sept. 30	Community Project Award books due to District	X	
Sep-Oct	Annual Club Planning Conferences scheduled	X	X
Oct. 1	Beginning of the 2016-2017 Optimist Year	X	X
Oct. 10	Annual Club Review due to District Sec/Treas		X
Oct. 14	Annual Activities Report due to District Sec/Treas	X	
Oct. 21-22	Fall District Conference – Bloomington, IL	X	X
Oct	District and International Dues due	X	
Nov 15	ACPC Reports Due		X
Jan 12	Deadline for 2 nd quarter Bulletin Submissions	X	X
Jan 20,21	2 nd Qtr District Conference – Bloomington, IL	X	X
Jan	International Dues Due	X	
Feb 15	Form 990 to IRS if required (check gross income)	X	
Feb 28	Deadline to Submit Essays to District Chairperson	X	
Mar 8	Club Oratorical Contests Complete	X	
Mar 16	Deadline for 3 rd Quarter Bulletin Submissions	X	
Mar 29	Zone Oratorical Contest Complete		X
Apr 15	Essay Winners to District Chair	X	
Apr 19	Regional Oratorical Contests Complete		
Apr	District & International Dues Due	X	
Apr 28,29	3 rd Qtr District Conference – Bloomington, IL	X	X
Apr 29	District Oratorical Contest		
Apr 29	Poster Contest Entries due at Conference		
May 15	District Oratorical Winners submitted to OI		
May 20	Officer-Elect Report due to Optimist International	X	X
June 8	Deadline for 4 th quarter Bulletin submissions	X	
June 15,16	International Oratorical – St Louis		
June 14,15	Illinois District OIJGC Tournament	X	
July 5	Camp Coco	X	
July 6-8	Optimist International Convention – Albuquerque	X	X
July	International Dues Due	X	
Aug 4-6	District Convention – Bloomington, IL	X	X
Sept 30	Optimist International Foundation donations due	X	
Sept 30	Presidents Pride Report Due	X	X

ILLINOIS DISTRICT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

ACTIVITIES: Promotes participation in all Youth and Community Serving activities and is responsible for the Community Project Award (CPA) competition.

BULLETIN EDITOR: Publishes District Bulletin, promotes club bulletins, publicizes district meetings, visitations by the Governor and Optimist International dignitaries.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATION: Screens and approves all candidates for district offices. Approves all nominations for the office of Lt. Governor and Governor-Elect and is in charge of all district elections.

CLUB SERVICES: Promotes strong club administration, long term follow-up for new clubs and assists Optimist clubs needing administrative assistance.

ESSAY CONTEST: Promotes Club Essay contest and conducts District Essay Contest.

FINANCE: Prepares proposed annual District Budget, ensures adherence to fiscal policies and exercises supervisory care of district financial transactions.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AMBASSADOR: Promotes attendance and involvement at the Optimist International Convention.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: Training of Club, Zone and District Leaders in areas of growth, administration, and motivation at Zone, District and Convention meetings.

MEMBERSHIP and RETENTION: Responsible for implementing a club membership retention program and developing and executing a vigorous new member campaign, and gives administrative assistance to Clubs as they work to achieve their membership goals.

NEW CLUB BUILDING: Responsible for implementing the International New Club Building program. Directly assists the Lt. Governors and clubs in meeting their New Club Building goals.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION: Promotes the Foundation by updating members on its purpose and achievements. It also seeks donations, collects all funds and gives receipts upon request.

OIJGC: Promotes and supervises Club and District Junior Golf Championship Golf Tournaments.

ORATORICAL: Promotes and supervises the Club, Zone, Regional and District Oratorical Contests.

POSTER CONTEST: Annual theme to be announced.

YOUTH CLUBS: Responsible for implementing the International Junior Optimist and Octagon club building. Plans and conducts a Youth Club District Convention.

ILLINOIS DISTRICT COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Bulletin Editor

Sandi Schmidt
3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
309-236-1342 (C)
schmidtsandi@gmail.com

Childhood Cancer Campaign(CCC)

Chris Smith
2608 Hazelnut Drive
Springfield, IL 62702
(217) 546-2016 (H)
(217) 753-1688 (B)
csmith@hdsmith.com

Conference Chair

Judy Geuder
1654 Pear Tree Road
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-508-0427
judygeuder@gmail.com

District Convention

District Directory

Nicole Del Re
649 E Eisenhower Ave
Palatine, IL 60074
847-275-5319
coliolli23@gmail.com

Essay Contest

Connie Minnes
3307 Douglas Woods
Urbana, IL 61802
217-367-7277 (H)
mcmminnes@sbcglobal.net

Finance

William Powell
129 Oaklawn Avenue
Oswego, IL 60543
(630) 554-2798 (H)
(630) 347-2798 (C)
billmar444@aol.com

Foundation Representative

Paul Hellrich
3921 Dorothy Court
Granite City, IL 62040
(618) 797-1062 (H)
(618) 407-3011 (C)

International Convention

Ambassador

Harold Olsen
524 Strange St.
Springfield, IL 62704
217-546-4443 (H)
217-415-2424 (C)
h.olsen@att.net

Leadership Development

John Del Re
649 E Eisenhower Ave
Palatine, IL 60074
847-842-2897 (W)
847-942-2897 (C)
johndelre@sbcglobal.net

Membership

Barb Reich
1545 Laurel Ave.
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-945-1955 (H)
847-848-3048 (C)
barbreich@gmail.com

ILLINOIS DISTRICT COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Optimist International Junior Golf Championship (OIJGC)

Terry Wright
505 S. Main St
Taylorville, IL 62568
217-827-5978(H)
terry@oijgc.org

Oratorical Contest

Ron Elvin
105 Linden Dr.
Oswego, IL 60543
630-551-4274
elvinmanor@sbcglobal.net

Parliamentarian

Harold Olsen
524 Strange St.
Springfield, IL 62704
217-546-4443 (H)
217-415-2424 (C)
h.olsen@att.net

Policy Review Chair

Eric Jebsen
227 Deerpath Drive
Oswego, IL 60543
ericjbsn@sbcglobal.net

Communications Chair

Will Edelmuth
920 Summit Drive
Deerfield, IL 60015
847-914-0233 (H)
312-204-7555 (W)
925-890-0348 (C)
edelmuth@gmail.com

Poster Contest

Charles Mayhew
423 S Douglas Ave Belleville, IL
62220
(618) 806-5145 (C)
charles.mayhew@sbcglobal.net

Sergeant At Arms

Harold Olsen
524 Strange St.
Springfield, IL 62704
217-546-4443 (H)
217-415-2424 (C)
h.olsen@att.net

Webmaster

James Patrick Schmidt
1828 36th Street
Moline, IL 61265
309-236-2843 (C)
jamespatrickschmidt@gmail.com

ZONE 1
LT. GOV. JOHN GOOD
612 Thames Drive
Schaumburg, IL 60193
847-524-3332 (H)
847-341-3337 (C)
jgoodness54@hotmail.com

DEERFIELD 12083 – 1st Tuesday 7:00 pm various location
2nd Tuesday lunch—Egg Shell 11:30 am; 3rd Tuesday lunch—Egg Shell 11:30 am

President	Barbara Reich 1545 Laurel Avenue Deerfield, IL 60015 847-945-1955 (H) (847) 848-3048 (C) barbreich@gmail.com	Secretary	Judy L Geuder 1654 Pear Tree Road Deerfield, IL 60015 847-508-0427 (H) judygeuder@gmail.com
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DES PLAINES 12084—1st Thurs Silver Stallion, 3rd Thurs St. Martin's Church
6:30pm

President	Ed Welther 1842 Fox Run Drive Unit A EGV, IL 60007 847-489-5216 (H) chef_pina@yahoo.com	Secretary	Jennifer Boys 915 N York Unit 206 Elmhurst, IL 60126 630-279-3397 (H) 847-962-6974 (C) jboys@dpparks.org
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GLENVIEW 12154 – 1st Tues 12pm at Hackneys On Lake

President	Lisa Synnestvedt 801 Clover Ct Glenview, IL 60025 847-219-3513 (H) Lisa.synnestvedt@gmail.com	Secretary	Steven K Bucklin 2718 W Central Rd Glenview, IL 60025 847-998-5608 (H) 847-722-7086 (C) skbucklin@gmail.com
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(Continued on page 12)

ZONE 1 (continued)
LT. GOV. JOHN GOOD
612 Thames Drive
Schaumburg, IL 60193
847-524-3332 (H)
847-341-3337 (C)
jgoodness54@hotmail.com

NILES 12246 – First Weds., Behind Niles Police Station at 6:30pm

President	John C Jekot 7335 W Lee St Niles, IL 60714-2211 847-651-7624 (H) jjekot@att.net	Secretary	Jerry Szczepanski 6851 W Dobson Niles, IL 60714-3326 847-966-6580 (H) skiniles@yahoo.com
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OAK PARK 12264 – 1st & 3rd Tues., Holley Court Terrace, Oak Park at 12 PM

President	Al Hippensteel 901 S Plymouth Ct #1005 Chicago, IL 60605 312-939-8888 (H) davis- steel@sbcglobal.net	Secretary	Joan Hutchinson 215 Circle Ave Forest Park, IL 60130 708-689-0603 (H) joanhutch@aol.com
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WILMETTE 12358 – every Tues., Willmette Golf Course and Restaurant at 12pm

President	Noel Jackson 3306 Hartzell Street Evanston, IL 60201 847-869-5822 (H) 847-927-2291 (C) jacksonhnoel@gmail.com	Secretary	Ron Porte 128 Laurel Ave Wilmette, IL 60091 847-251-7143 (H) 847-910-2900 (C) rdporte@gmail.com
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ZONE 2
LT. GOV. BRANDY WREN
15820 Lakeside Drive
Sterling, IL 61081
815-590-3496 (H)
815-631-6886 (C)
bwren10@gmail.com

MENDOTA 12222 – 2ND & 4TH Tues., Mendota VFW Post at 7pm

President Chris Ossman
802 W Lawn Ave
Mendota, IL 61342
815-739-6547 (H)
815-224-6982 (W)
Chris.ossman@
abcsupply.com

Secretary Matt Novak
1407 Hillcrest Dr
Mendota, IL 61342
815-303-4653 (H)
matt.novak
@pioneer.com

OSWEGOLAND 12265 – 2ND & 4TH Mon. at 7pm Tap House Grill

President Bryan Noble
463 Sudbury Circle
Oswego, IL 60543
641-895-8920 (H)
Bryan_noble@hotmail.
com

Secretary Annie Moore
1505 Fairway Drive
Apt #101
Naperville, IL 60563
331-575-4084 (H)
annie@atriumwellnes
smassage.com

PRINCETON 12286 – 1st & 3rd Tues., Kramers at 6:00pm

President Kenny Lampley
116 S Plum St
Princeton, IL 61356
815-878-1022 (H)
815-925-7600 (W)
kosmiccharlie69@
yahoo.com

Secretary Gary S Patterson
715 N. Linn
Princeton, IL 61356
815-875-3767 (H)
garypatt@hotmail.com

(Continued on page 14)

ZONE 2(Continued)
LT GOV BRANDY WREN
15820 Lakeside Drive
Sterling, IL 61081
815-590-3496 (H)
815-631-6886 (C)
bwren10@gmail.com

ROCK FALLS 12302 – 2nd & 4th Mon., 6:45 pm at the Candlelight Inn

President	Jack Spencer 1001 E 35th Street Sterling, IL 61081 815-625-1879 (H) 815-625-5100 (W) Jack.spencer.bzn3@s tatefarm.com	Secretary	John L. Hoffmiller 1209 Sixth Ave Rock Falls, IL 61071 815-626-1028 (H)
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STERLING 12328 – 2nd & 4th Thurs.,Candlelight Inn at 7:00 pm

President	Sam Meier 2112 E 41st Street Sterling, IL 61081 815-213-0315 (H) 815-535-0776 (W) Meiersam22@gmail.com	Secretary	Mark Sedig 1706 39th Ave Sterling, IL 61081-4234 815-626-5514 (H) 815-626-7802 (W) 815-590-6362 (C) marksedig72 @hotmail.com
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ZONE 3
LT. GOV. MARTIN C SCHMIDT
3754 47th Street Drive
Moline, IL 61265
(309) 236-2337 (C)
schmidtm@mchsi.com

MOLINE BFT 12030 – Every Wed., Windmill Family Rest (EM), 7:30am

President	Galen Starkweather 4312 River Drive Moline, IL 61265 309-797-5325 (H) 563-529-1109 (C) hamnch1@aol.com	Secretary	Anthony P Columbia 901 6 St PO Box 485 Hampton, IL 61256 acolumbia@melfostercd.com
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MILAN 12224 – 2nd Wed., Milan American Legion at 6:30pm

President	Tom D Brown Po Box 522 Milan, IL 61264 309-738-1354 (H) 309-797-3361 (W) brownt@sprelec.com	Secretary	Tracy Newman 1620 35th St Rock Island, IL 61201 309-793-5827 sentrypooltracy@yahoo.com
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SILVIS 12322 – 2nd & 4th Wed. at 6pm, Slugger's Pizza

President	Matthew D Carter 1015 2nd Avenue Silvis, IL 61282 309-792-0052 (W) 309-781-6381 (C) golfingbuddy6969@yahoo.com	Secretary	Dave Emerick Jr c/o Blackhawk Bank & Trust 1100 1st Ave Silvis, IL 61282 309-788-5044 (H) 309-752-1200 (W) 309-236-1873 (C) demerrick @choosethechief.com
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ZONE 4
LT. GOV.

CHILLICOTHE 12065 – 1st & 3rd Sat., Grecian Garden Restaurant at 8 am

President	Jb Culbertson 5512 E Marquette Chillicothe, IL 61523 309-236-237 (H) 309-472-3418 (C) janetculbertson@yahoo .com	Secretary	Bobbie Crothers-Bisio 1504 W. David Ave. Chillicothe, IL 61523 309-274-9400 (W) 309-669-8923 (C) babbie@crotherschiroprac tic.com
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DEHAVAN 12085 – 2nd Mon., Historical Society Building. 7:00 pm

President	Gerald Burroughs 408 W 3rd Street Delavan, IL 61734 309-244-9048 (H) 309-202-5264 (C) Glb0848@sbcglobal.net	Secretary	Edson Hart 405 West Third Street Delavan, IL 61734 309-244-8424 Hart-e@sbcglobal.net
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GLASFORD 12150 – 2nd Wed., club house on park Street at 7pm

President	Marc P Bohannon PO Box 23 Glasford, IL 61533 309-360-4326 Cubmaster56@glastel. net	Secretary	Robert A Meyer PO Box 500 Glasford, IL 61533-0500 309-565-7353 (H) 309-389-2551 (W) rameyer@mtco.com
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(Continued on page 17)

ZONE 4 (Continued)
LT. GOV.

HAVANA 12176 – 2nd & 4th Wed., The Paddlewheel at 6pm

President **Kenneth R Walker**
 13020 E Cr 1220n
 Havana, IL 62644

Secretary **Daniel Whitsitt**
 712 E Adams St
 Havana, IL 62644
 (309) 543-2488(H)
 Whitsitt@gmail.com

LEWISTOWN 12188 – 1st & 3rd Thurs., Country Side Diner at 7pm

President **Robert Peterson**
 431 N 7th Avenue
 Canton, IL 61520
 309-649-3318 (H)
 ptalinda@hotmail.com

Secretary **Rebecca Humphrey**
 166 S State St
 PO Box 171
 Liverpool, IL 61543-0171
 309-219-2495 (H)
 309-547-2501 (W)
 ctygalatheart@yahoo.com

ST. DAVID 12318 – 1st & 3rd Wed., St. David Optimist Hall at 6:30pm

President **Jeffrey L Braden**
 405 N Maple
 Lewistown, IL 61542
 309-547-2028 (H)
 309-231-1801 (C)
 jjobservice@
 sbcglobal.net

Secretary **Cheri Lillie**
 607 Lincoln St
 St David, IL 61563
 309-338-9899
 cheri_lillie@yahoo.com

ZONE 5

LT. GOV. TERRY WRIGHT
505 S MAIN STREET
TAYLORVILLE, IL 62568
217-827-5978 (H)
TERRY@OIJGC.ORG

GRACE MITCHELL
3210 EDWARD HOFFMAN DR
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822
217-355-0756
MITCHELLGRACE7@GMAIL.COM

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA 12064– 1st & 3rd Thurs., Perkins on University, Urbana at 6:pm

President Torionna Exum
PO Box 978
Urbana, IL 61803
217-390-3972 (H)
cuoptmistclub@gmail.com

Secretary Walter Splittstoesser
2006 Cureton Dr
Urbana, IL 61801-6226
217-367-3330 (H)
splittst@illinois.edu

MARSHALL CLARK COUNTY 12214 – Every Wed. at 6:45AM Marshall VFW

President Art Miller
15819 N Oak Crest Road
Marshall, IL 62441
217-340-4340 (H)
millerae@mchsi.com

Secretary Marilyn R Lueken
314 Pine Street
Marshall, IL 62441-1183
217-826-5992 (H)
217-826-2392 (W)
217-822-5702 (C)
marilynlueken@gmail.com

QUINCY BFT. 12038 – Every Tues., Sprout's Inn at 6:45am

President Matt Schmidt
1235 2400th Place
Camp Point, IL 62320
mschmidt@adams.net

Secretary Linda S Sade
2516 Northridge
Quincy, IL 62305
217-223-8159 (H)
217-223-7113 (W)
217-257-5774 (C)
jaylin33@att.net

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ZONE 5 (continued)

**LT. GOV. TERRY WRIGHT
505 S MAIN STREET
TAYLORVILLE, IL 62568
217-827-5978 (H)
TERRY@OIJGC.ORG**

**GRACE MITCHELL
3210 EDWARD HOFFMAN DR
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61822
217-355-0756
MITCHELLGRACE7@GMAIL.COM**

SPRINGFIELD BFT. 12046 – Every Fri., Atonement Lutheran Church at 7am

**President Mark Depue
613 Catskill Drive
Springfield, IL 62711
217-698-7661 (H)
Mark.depue@illinois.gov**

**Secretary Richard Mclane
1125 Crescent Ln
Springfield, IL 62704-2209
217-546-5021
hrm1935@aol.com**

SPRINGFIELD LUNCHEON 12200 – MCL, 2nd Mon at 11:45am & 3rd Mon. at 6:00pm

**President Daniel Greer
2132 Cherry Road
Springfield, IL 62704
217-546-3960 (H)
217-744-1000 (W)
dgreerlaw@sbcglobal.net**

**Secretary Harold Olsen
Treasurer 524 Stange Ave
Springfield, IL 62704
217-546-4443 (H)
217-415-2424 (C)
h.olsen@att.net**

TAYLORVILLE 12334 – Every Thursday Taylorville Mem Hospital Auditorium 7am

**President Larry Vaughan
550 Sunset Blvd
Taylorville, IL 62568
217-827-8222 (C)
livaughan@newwavecom
m.net**

**Secretary James E Adcock
2347 East 1300 North Rd
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217-824-8555 (W)
217-820-9323 (C)
jadcock@bankpbt.com**

ZONE 6
LT. GOV. CHARLES MAYHEW
423 S DOUGLAS AVENUE
BELLEVILLE, IL 62220
618-806-5145 (C)
CHARLES.MAYHEW@SBCGLOBAL.NET

BELLEVILLE 12016 – Every Tues., Bellecourt Place at 12pm

President Jane Bonaldi 413 Warrensburg Dr Belleville, IL 62223 618-277-5763 (H) 618-910-3454 (C) jbonaldi@charter.net	Secretary Charles C Mayhew 423 S Douglas Ave Belleville, IL 62220 618-806-5145 (C) charles.mayhew @sbcglobal.net
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BELLEVILLE WESTSIDE 12354 – Every Thurs., Fischer's Rest. At 12pm

President Carol Reuter 216 Fournie Lane Swansea, IL 62226 618-830-9900 (C) carolreuter @carolreuter.com	Secretary Debbie Rockwell Treasurer 423 Arapaho Belleville, IL 62220 618-234-3342 (H) 618-239-9000 (W) rockwell @fcbbanks.com
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O'FALLON 12373 1st & 3rd Tues., Schiappa's Italian Restaurant at 6pm

President Marie Coffman 1329 Engle Creek Dr O'Fallon, IL 62269 618-531-8024 (H) 618-622-1035 (W) 618-531-8024 (C) maria.coffman@gmail.c	Secretary Virginia R Stark Treasurer 159 Fieldstone Drive Belleville, IL 62221 618-233-8522 (H) ginnieb-jcp@att.net
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SMITHTON 12369 – 1st & 3rd Tues., Janice's Country Kitchen at 5:30pm

President Paul Obernuefemann 615 S. Hickory Smithton, IL 62285 618-398-7575 (W) paul@wisehr.com	Lori Obernuefemann 210 Suburban Dr Smithton, IL 62285 618-239-0001 (H) ober@isp.com lori4190@att.net
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ZONE 6 (continued)
LT. GOV. CHARLES MAYHEW
423 S DOUGLAS AVENUE
BELLEVILLE, IL 62220
618-806-5145 (C)
CHARLES.MAYHEW@SBCGLOBAL.NET

FREEBURG 12120 – 1st & 3rd Thurs., Valentine's Restaurant at 6:30pm

President	Carol Schlitt 624 Brookstone Ct Freeburg, IL 62243 618-539-5622 (H) 618-977-78-787 (C) carolschlitt@charter.net	Secretar y	Marilyn Glaus 2502 Sweet Birch Ln New Athens, IL 62264 618-397-7734 (H) 618-539-5533 (W) glausma@accessus.net
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MILLSTADT 12227 – 1st & 3rd Thurs., Quail Club at 7:00pm

President	Michael French 15 Genstone Drive Millstadt, IL 62260 618-476-3153 (H) frenchmen4@charter.net	Secretary	Marie Lewis 22 Kaiserstrasse Millstadt, IL 62260 618-830-8325 (H) melewis19@hotmail .com
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WATERLOO 12346 – 2nd & 4th Thurs., JV's Bar & Grill at 6:30pm

President	James Probst 3923 Vogel School Rd Waterloo, IL 62298 jprobst@wmnobbe.c om	Secretary	Shelby Mathes Jr 6108 Red Bird Ln Waterloo, IL 62298 618-939-1748 (H) smrk2000@htc.net
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ZONE 7

BREESE 12021 – 2nd Tues., KC Hall at 7:30pm

President	Matthew Lyons 439 9th Street Breese, IL 62230 314-378-3071 Mattlyons79@charter.net	Secretary Treas	Dale Detmer 10750 Nobs Rd Breese, IL 62230 ddetmer@charter.net
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CARLYLE 12058 – 1st Wed., Carlyle VFW Hall at 7pm

President	Ron L Huels 19402 Sand Ridge Rd Carlyle, IL 62231-3404 618-594-4417 (H) 618-594-4417 (W)	Secretary Treas	Gary Renschen 990 11th Carlyle, IL 62231- 618-594-4431 (H) garyrenschen @charter.net
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CENTRALIA 12060 – , 2nd Weds, at KFC at Noon

President	Mike Reed PO Box 1885 Centralia, IL 62801 618-532-2698 (H) 618-533-0122 (W) reedlaw1885@gmail.com	Secretary Treas	Angie Siddell 1131 Fairfax St Carlyle, IL 62231 618-973-0000 (C) asiddell@amfam.com
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NASHVILLE 12245 – 2nd Thurs., El Indio Restaurant at 6 pm

President	Randall Habbe 18095 White Tail Run Nashville, IL 62263 618-327-3161 (H) 618-713-7954 (C) randyhabbe @hotmail.com	Secretary	Sara Kollbaum 17761 Lark Road Nashville, IL 62263 618-599-0121 skaulbau@nashville- k12.org
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PINCKNEYVILLE 12282 – 2nd & 4th Thurs., Grecian Steakhouse/ Club Bldg. At 6:30 pm

President	Jeff Miller 801 Queens Way Pinckneyville, IL 62274 618-357-9007 (H) millersgirls@frontier.com	Secretary	Joe Crawford 4083 Sioux Circle Pinckneyville, IL 62274 618-357-5495 (H) 618-357-5373 (W) 618-318-2238 (C) joec_54@hotmail.com
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ZONE 8
BILL WAGNER
36 WILLOW CREEK
HIGHLAND, IL 62249
618-651-1322 (H)
618-401-0681 (C)
WWAGNER6@CHARTER.NET

ALTON AREA 1200, 2nd Tuesday at Johnsons Corner at 6:30 pm

President	Elaine Kane 4401 Thatcher Rd Alton, IL 62002 618-462-7244 (H) 618-474-2600 (W) 618-410-3896 (C) ekane@altonschools.org	Secretary	Joanne Curvey 1124 Taylor Ave Godfrey, IL 62035 618-972-1809 (H) jcurvey@altonschools.org
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GRANITE CITY 12164 – Every Weds., Apple Tree Rest. At 12
Noon all other Weds at Noon

President	Paul Hellrich 3921 Dorothy Ct Granite City, IL 62040 618-797-1062 (H) 573-438-5495 (W) 618-407-3011 (C) phhellrich@yahoo.com	Secretary	Karen L Gambichler #35 Rickhaven Drive Collinsville, IL 62234 618-667-2966 (H) 618-304-9210 (C) korrgambi@aol.com
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GREENVILLE 12168 – 2nd & 4th Thurs., Greenville Country Club at 7pm

President	Dan Zitta 445 Campground Trail Greenville, IL 62246 618-978-3843 macremgmt@gmail.com	Secretary	Ruth Wise 1152 Prairie Road Greenville, IL 62246 618-664-0888 (H) 256- 509-6110 (C) rw92050@yahoo.com
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ZONE 8 (continued)
BILL WAGNER
36 WILLOW CREEK
HIGHLAND, IL 62249
618-651-1322 (H)
618-401-0681 (C)
WWAGNER6@CHARTER.NET

HIGHLAND 12180 – 1ST & 3RD Mon., Highland Country Club at 6:30pm

President David Callahan
1701 Olive Street
Highland, IL 62249
618-623-2159 (C)
Dcallahan1967@yaho
o.com

Secretary Kevin Hemann
6 Birdie Lane
Highland, IL 62249
618-654-5671
618-977-7526
kevinh@highlandmachin
e.com

ILLINOIS DISTRICT POLICIES

(Adopted 2011 District Convention, amended 2015)

I. POLICY ADMINISTRATION

- a. **Implementation:** It is the duty of the Governor and the Executive Committee to insure the implementation of these policies.
- b. **Amendments:**
 - 1. A Policy Review Committee shall be appointed by the Governor. This committee shall be comprised of at least five persons, to include the Governor-Elect, the Parliamentarian, and at least one past Governor.
 - 2. Proposed changes to the District Policies should be presented to this committee not later than 45 day prior to the District Convention and shall be voted upon for the approval at the annual District Convention. If, however, proposed changes (or amendments to proposed changes) are introduced after the 45 day period, such changes shall require a 2/3 vote for approval.
- c. **Distribution:** Distribution of the Illinois District Policies shall be done annually as part of the Illinois District Directory.

II. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

- a. **Board of Directors**
 - 1. **Purpose:** The Board of Directors functions as the main legislative body for the Illinois District
 - 2. **Membership:** The Board of Directors is comprised of the following members:
 - 1. Governor
 - 2. Governor Elect
 - 3. Two Immediate Past Governors
 - 4. Lt. Governors
 - 5. District Secretary/Treasurer
 - 6. President of each club or his/her designee
 - 7. Assistant Governor (s)
 - 3. **Rights and Privileges:** Only these members may make motions, debate and discuss motions on the floor, and vote at the general assembly of the quarterly district meetings. The presiding officer may recognize other members when a motion is not on the floor if he/she so desires but is not required to do so. However, at the Annual Convention all accredited delegates are afforded the same privileges as the Board of Directors. The District Board shall annually determine the District Depository & signatories
 - 4. Meetings

a. A Board of Directors meeting shall be held in each quarter of the Optimist year. It is recommended that these meetings be held not later than during the second month of each quarter, except that the first quarter meeting should be held in October. Zone Meetings or combined Region/Zone Meetings may replace the Second Quarter District Meeting as long as the Zones and/or Regions conduct training and business sessions during this quarter as authorized by the Governor.

b. Arrangements for District Board Meeting facilities and meals shall be made by a committee appointed by the Governor. Program and all arrangements are to have the approval of the Governor.

c. Spouses and children are encouraged to attend these meetings. It is the responsibility of the host committee to arrange for spouses' and children's entertainment.

d. The District would encourage the presidents of all clubs to attend district meetings. However, should the president be unable to attend the Board of Directors meeting, an appointed delegate for that club would be allowed to speak and act as the president, in the conduct of the business coming before the Board of Directors, providing the delegate produces written proof of his/her appointment to the District Secretary-Treasurer.

b. Executive Committee

1. **Purpose.** The Executive Committee serves as the main advisory/ administrative body of the Illinois District.
2. **Membership.** The Executive Committee is comprised of the following members:
 - a. Governor
 - b. Governor-Elect
 - c. Two Immediate Past Governors
 - d. Lieutenant Governors
 - e. District Secretary-Treasurer
 - f. Assistant Governors
3. **Rights and Privileges.** The District is in support of open meetings for the Executive Committee. However, only members of the Executive Committee may make motions, debate and discuss motion on the floor, and vote. This does not prevent the Executive Committee from receiving verbal or written reports from individuals or committees at their request. The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancies in any office in the District.

4. Meetings. A minimum of four (4) Executive Committee meetings shall be held during the Optimist year. It is recommended that they be held immediately prior to the District Board meeting. If the Zone and/or Region option is chosen by the Governor for the Second Quarter, a teleconference with at least 51 percent of the Executive Committee on line may replace the Second Quarter Executive Committee meeting.

c. Appointed Positions

1. Assistant Governors. The Assistant(s) to the Governor may be appointed for one year by the Governor-Designate subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

2. A District Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed annually by the Governor-Designate subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. He/she shall have full voting rights on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. The District Secretary-Treasurer shall not serve more than three consecutive years.

3. The Sergeant-at-Arms and Parliamentarian are appointed members of both the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors; however, they serve only in an advisory capacity. They may not make or vote on motions on the floor.

4. The Governor shall appoint all current committee chairs & may call for quarterly meetings

III. DISTRICT CONVENTION

A. Annual Convention. A Convention of the clubs of the District should be held annually during the month of August, but no later than September 30 and shall be a three (3) day convention beginning on Friday and ending on Sunday.

B. Convention Program. The convention shall embody the following features:

1. A Lieutenant Governors-Elect conference.
2. A quarterly Executive Committee meeting and a meeting of the Board of Directors.
3. A "Club Administrative Conference" attended by newly-elected club and District officers. Club and District committee members are also encouraged to attend.
4. The election of Governor-Elect for the coming year shall be held on Saturday.
5. A Governor's Banquet and Installation of Officers shall be held on Saturday night with the International Representative as speaker.
6. An "Old Timers Breakfast" which may be held on Sunday morning.
7. The program shall have the approval of the Governor prior to printing.
8. A Memorial Service, which may be held on Sunday morning, should be held for those members who have died during the prior year.

C. Convention Administration. The Convention is the District Convention. The Governor-Elect is chairperson of the Convention. It shall be planned and supervised by the Convention Committee, the Governor, and the Governor-Elect.

D. Proposed Convention Rules

1. The Convention shall be composed of delegates as set forth in the International Bylaws, Article VII; Section 4.
2. To be accredited by the Credentials Committee and eligible to vote on Convention business, delegates must have registered at the Convention, paid the registration fee, and produce such credentials as may be required by the Board of Directors.
3. Each club is entitled to one vote for each 10 members or major fraction thereof (6 or more).
4. On a voice vote or hand vote each club may use their allowed quota of votes but only with those accredited delegates present. Example – If your club is allowed 5 votes but only have 3 members present then you only get 3 votes.
5. On a written or paper vote the rule is different. Each club that has a registered delegate that is present shall be allowed their quota of votes without having their full quota of delegates present. Clubs may split their votes but must be a whole number. Each club shall select a chairperson to tally the results and report the same.
6. The Credentials Committee shall report at the first session thereof and periodically thereafter or when directed to do so.
7. The program as printed shall be the official program of the Convention.
8. Following the report of the Candidate Qualification Committee, the Governor-elect shall call for other nominations from the floor and then call for the closing of nominations.
9. Following the report of the Candidate Qualification Committee, there maybe nominating speeches on behalf of all candidates.
10. A nominating speech, seconding speech, and candidate's response shall not exceed a total of twelve minutes for each candidate.
11. All voting shall be by voice, hand, or rising vote, at the discretion of the chairperson unless a ballot or roll call vote is ordered by a majority vote of the accredited delegates. In the event a vote by ballot is ordered, the chairperson shall appoint a committee of tellers and name its chairperson. If the balloting has been conducted for the purpose of electing an officer, the chairperson shall announce the name of the winner only and then entertain a motion to destroy the ballots.

12. No accredited delegate shall be entitled to the floor unless he rises, addresses the presiding officer, and gives his name and club affiliation.
13. Debate shall be limited to five minutes a speaker. No accredited delegate shall speak a second time to the same question at the sitting if another accredited delegate who has not spoken thereon rises and asks for the floor.
14. No accredited delegate shall speak more than twice on the same question if anyone objects.
15. Main motions shall be put in writing when the chairperson directs.
16. The chairperson shall entertain no motion unless seconded and shall not be open to debate or amendment before the chairperson has repeated it.
17. The vote on a question, once commenced, shall not be interrupted except to ask that the chairperson restate the question.
18. An accredited delegate may change his vote from one side to the other provided he rises and asks for the floor promptly and before the chairperson declares the result final.
19. Not more than two (one primary, one secondary) amendments to any question shall be pending at one time, but after disposal of one or both of them other amendments may be proposed.
20. The Convention may, to expedite the handling of business, limit as it chooses the time or the number of speakers for each side on any question, or the total time for debate, by a two-thirds vote.
21. The chairperson of committees may make partial reports during lull periods of the Convention unless otherwise ordered.
22. These convention rules shall be adopted by a majority vote, but they may be suspended, rescinded, or amended after their adoption by a two-thirds vote.
23. The rules as adopted for the current Convention shall be the proposed rules for the Convention in the following year.
24. In the absence of a specific convention rule or a specific printed Optimist International Bylaw, ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER shall govern the deliberation of this Convention.

E. Elections

1. Elections shall be held in accordance with Optimist International rules governing same.
2. In the event of nominations from the floor for Governor-Elect, there shall be a fifteen (15) minute recess in which time the Candidate Qualification Committee shall determine the candidate(s) eligibility.
3. To be eligible to be elected as Governor, a person must be a member in good standing and has served or is serving as a Club President. The Governor-Elect automatically become Governor 10/1 the year following election.

F. Registration. All district officers, club officers, and members are required to register on the official form supplied by the District and pay the registration fee for all District Board of Directors meetings and the Convention. All registered persons shall check in personally at the meeting and official attendance records will be made from these check-in forms.

IV. FINANCES

A. Finance Committee

1. The Finance Committee shall present to the first quarter District Board of Directors meeting a proposed budget for approval.
2. The Finance Committee may adjust items within the framework of the budget to suit the needs of the District, so long as the total budget is not altered or major categories appreciably changed.
3. The Finance Committee shall include in each annual budget a reserve in the amount of \$3500. This reserve shall be restricted to transfer and use by the incoming administration for expenses chargeable to the next fiscal year. Moneys will be available for transfer not later than the annual District Convention.
4. The Finance Committee shall review the adequacy of the Illinois District dues annually and report their findings and recommendation at the third quarter Board of Directors meeting.
5. The Finance Committee shall meet quarterly to review the status of current District finances and budgets.
6. An annual financial review of the prior fiscal year shall be given to the District Board by December 31.

B. Expenses

1. Budgeted monies for Governor, Governor Elect, Governor Designate, Assistant Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, Sergeant At Arms and Secretary/Treasurers are to be paid up on submitting expense vouchers with the necessary receipts.

2. District Conference(s) and District Convention

- a. Eligibility:** Governor, Governor Elect, Governor Designate, Assistant Governors, Lieutenant Governors, Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, Sergeant At Arms and Secretary/Treasurer.
 - b. Mileage:** Mileage will be reimbursed at the rate of 28 cents per mile.
 - c. Lodging:** Eligible attendees will be reimbursed for one night of lodging for Conferences and the Convention. A maximum of two nights lodging is allowed if the attendee is required to travel more than 100 miles each way.
 - d. Meals:** Only lunch and dinner served at the Conferences or Convention will be reimbursed.
 - e. Registration:** Registration fees for the Conferences and the Convention will be reimbursed.
 - f. Dual Office:** If a person holds more than one eligible office (i.e. Lt. Governor and Committee Chair) he/she may be reimbursed for only one position.
- 3.** Moneys allocated to the Governor, Secretary-Treasurer, Governor-Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer-Designate as expenses for the International Convention may be paid prior to the Convention date, upon approval of the Governor. Lieutenant Governors-Elect will be paid upon completion of Lieutenant Governor required training at the International Convention.
- 4.** Lieutenant Governors and District chairpersons will receive budgeted moneys at the discretion of the Governor, with the guidance of the Finance Committee and the District Secretary-Treasurer, upon submitting proper expense vouchers, substantiating the completion of the various requirements of their duties.

C. District Dues

- 1.** The District billing of dues to clubs by the District Secretary-Treasurer shall be made twice annually as follows:
 - a.** During the first quarter each club will be billed one-half of the yearly District dues, as authorized by the District Board of Directors and approved by the Optimist International Board of Directors. This billing will be based on the official membership count, as listed by Optimist International, as of September 30.
 - b.** The second billing to each club will be made in the third quarter, and the amount billed will be one-half of the yearly District dues, as authorized by the District Board of Directors and approved by the Optimist International Board of Directors. This billing will be based on the official member count as listed by Optimist International on March 31
- 2.** The membership list on September 30 and March 31 are to be used and not the current members listed when billing is received.

D. District Secretary-Treasurer

1. A copy of “Supplemental Guideline to District Policies” should be provided to all new officers each year by the District Secretary- Treasurer to be used as a guide for expenses.
2. The current District Secretary-Treasurer shall maintain minutes and District financial records for the current year and the past five years.

V. INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT’S VISIT

- a. The International President will be invited to officially visit this District every other year. All clubs are encouraged to invite him/her to a special club meeting at any time.
- b. Arrangement for facilities and meals required for the International President’s visit to a club or the District shall be made by the host club of the visitation, under the direction of the Governor, and shall follow procedures as outlined in the booklet “How to Be a Good Host”, available through Optimist International.

VI. PUBLICATIONS

A. District Directory.

1. The Illinois District Directory, containing the names, addresses, and phone numbers of club, District, and international officers, District committee chairpersons, a list of Past Governors of the District, a list of any past international officer presently a member of an Illinois District Optimist club, District Policies, and the dates and locations of all District meetings and conferences of the administrative year, is a record that should be held in trust.
2. Its use for commercial or solicitation purposes shall be denied to all. The District may, however, sell advertising space in the District Directory providing the District has received prior permission from Optimist International.
3. The complete membership mailing shall be used exclusively for the promotion of Optimism in the State of Illinois and shall be denied to all for commercial solicitation, promoting a candidate for office other than an Optimist office, and club solicitation. Exceptions will be granted for charter parties, club anniversaries, etc., at the discretion of the Governor.
4. Distribution of the Illinois District Directory shall be made to all District Board members, District committee chairpersons, Past Governors, club secretary-treasurers, and others as approved by the Governor.

B. District Bulletin

1. The “Land of Lincoln” Bulletin shall be published electronically at least once each quarter.
2. The editor shall be the District Communications/Bulletin Chairperson.
3. Closing date for submission of articles shall be sixty (60) days prior to dates of each District Board meeting and the District Convention.
4. All clubs are encouraged to submit articles and pictures for each publication to the editor prior to the closing dates.
5. Electronic copies of the bulletin will be made available to the general membership through the district website.
6. Lt. Governors, club presidents and District committee chairs shall receive an electronic copy of the bulletin provided their email address is on file.
7. The Lt. Governors should assist the clubs within their zones in setting up electronic communications.

VII. ORGANIZATION

A. Clubs.

1. It is encouraged that all clubs impress upon candidates for club offices that their attendance at all District Board meetings, Zone meetings, and the District Convention is of prime importance.
2. It is the duty and responsibility of the club president, as a member of the District Board of Directors, as well as the secretary-treasurer, to be in attendance at all District Board meetings and the Convention. It is strongly emphasized and recommended that provisions be made in the club budget for defraying the cost of attending said meetings.
3. It is recommended that clubs institute an indoctrinating program for incoming officers in order to acquaint them with their duties and to insure a smooth transition to the new administration.
4. It is emphasized that new members be assimilated as soon as possible after induction so they feel they are an active part of the club.
5. Each club shall be incorporated as a non-profit organization.
6. Attendance at Charter Presentation, International President’s Visitation, and other meeting of a District nature by club members is encouraged.
7. Clubs are requested to actively participate in international programs such as Youth Appreciation Week, Essay and Oratorical Contest, Optimist International Junior Golf Championships, as well as Community Service, Respect for Law, etc.
8. Host clubs for District officers’ visitations should follow the procedures outlined in “How to Be a Good Host”, furnished by Optimist International.

9. All Optimists handling club funds must be bonded.
10. Clubs are urged to refrain from lending their good name to any fund raising campaign, project, or activity unless its members are actively participating in or conducting such a program.
11. Individuals and clubs shall not offer merchandise for sale, conduct raffles, or engage in any fund raising activity at any Zone or District meeting, nor at the International Convention.

B. Zones

1. Pursuant to the International Bylaws, the number and boundaries of Zones for any administrative year, if subject to revision, shall be determined by the Board of Directors prior to its meeting held in the third quarter of the preceding year to accommodate selection of Lieutenant Governor to serve during the next administrative year.
2. All proposals for realignment of Zone boundaries shall be submitted to the Governor not less than 30 days prior to said meeting. No Zone should be created with fewer than four (4) clubs.
3. New clubs shall automatically be assigned to the Zones of their sponsoring clubs. On October 2, new clubs will be assigned to the Zones in which they are geographically located and services thereto shall be the responsibility of the Lieutenant Governor of such Zone.
4. Lieutenant Governors are to be elected during the third quarter District meeting from a slate of candidates presented by the Governor-Elect or from open nominations from the floor. If there is no candidate from a given Zone, the office shall be declared vacant. An appointment may be made at a later time pending the approval of the Executive Committee.
5. Lieutenant Governors shall not be eligible to succeed themselves through election. In the case of emergency, they may be appointed to fill a vacancy with the approval of the Executive Committee. In any case they should not serve more than two terms in succession.

VIII. CONTESTS

A. Club Project Awards. Entries must be completed and submitted to the Activities Committee Chairperson by September 30. The entries will be judged at the first quarter District Board meeting and winners entered for competition at the next Optimist International Convention.

B. Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)

1. The Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH) in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 - a) Contest awards at the club, zone, and district levels will be awarded as detailed in the official rules.

2. The district contest will be held at the third quarter conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor. The District Chair will also be responsible for coordinating club and zone contest deadlines and guidelines.
3. A single entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant participating at the zone contest (if applicable) and district contest. The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Chair and approved by the Governor. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
4. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - a) Entry fee as detailed above
 - b) Transportation for the contestant to all contests beyond the club contest
 - c) Lodging for the contestant, if required, for all contests beyond the club contest
5. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - a) Lunch for each district contestant at the District Conference
 - b) Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for each district contestant
 - c) Plaques for winners at the zone and district levels

C. Essay Contest

1. The Essay Contest in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 - a) Contest awards at the club, zone, and district levels will be awarded as detailed in the official rules.
2. Club Essay Contests will be conducted during the first quarter of the Optimist year under the direction of each club's chairperson.
3. The district judging of the Essay contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor.
4. An entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant participating in the district Essay Contest. The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Chair and approved by the Governor. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
5. The winner of the district Essay Contest will be invited to attend the third quarter District Conference to read the winning essay.
6. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - b) Entry fee as detailed above
 - c) Transportation for the contestant to the District Conference
 - d) Lodging for the contestant, if required, for the District Conference

7. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - e) Lunch for the district winner at the District Conference
 - f) Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for the district winner
 - g) Plaque for the winner

D. Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (OIJGC)

1. The District Optimist International Junior Golf Championship shall be held in the month of June in enough time to allow for necessary arrangements to send one (1) boy and one (1) girl winner to the Optimist International Junior Golf Championship Tournament in July. The District tournament is to be under the direct supervision of the District Optimist International Junior Golf Championship chairperson and conducted according to the rules and/or guidelines of Optimist International Junior Golf Championship and the PGA. The District Board of Directors will approve one entry fee, per contestant, that will be paid for each entrant. The District will pay the cost of conducting the District tournament and the expense of sending one (1) boy and one (1) girl winner to the International Championship Tournament. All other expenses to and from the District tournament shall be borne by the individual participant or the sponsoring clubs.
2. An annual entry fee schedule shall be determined by the District Executive Committee upon the commendation of the District Optimist International Junior Golf Championship Chairperson.

E. Oratorical Contest

1. The Oratorical Contest in the Illinois District will be conducted in accordance with the official rules of the contest as published by Optimist International.
 - a) All contests, beginning at the club level, will be separate gender contests.
2. The District Oratorical Contest will be held at the third quarter conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor. The District Chair will also be responsible for coordinating club, zone, and regional contest deadlines and guidelines.
3. A single entry fee must be paid to cover the cost for each contestant advancing to a contest beyond the club contest (zone, regional, or district). The amount of the entry fee will be established by the District Executive Committee, based on the recommendation of the District Oratorical Chair. The contestant's sponsoring club will pay the entry fee.
4. The sponsoring club is responsible for the following costs for their contestant:
 - a) Entry fee as detailed above
 - b) Transportation for the contestant to all contests beyond the club contest

- c) Lodging for the contestant, if required, for all contests beyond the club contest
- 5. The District is responsible for the following costs:
 - a) Lunch for each district contestant at the District Conference
 - b) Half of the lunch cost for up to three guests for each district contestant
 - c) Prizes for winners as described in Sections 6, 7, and 8 below.
- 6. Zone Contests. Zone Oratorical Contests are to be conducted by the assigned Lt. Governor or zone chairperson, under the supervision of the District Oratorical Chair. Awards to be presented at the zone contest are zone participation certificates to all participants and a gift to the girl and boy winners.
- 7. Regional Contests. The region's Assistant Governor or a chairperson appointed by the Governor, under the supervision of the District Oratorical Chair, shall conduct the Regional Oratorical Contest. Regional Oratorical Contests shall be held with a nearly equal number of zones in each region and simultaneously or as nearly so as practical. Regional participation certificates will be presented to all participants. The District Oratorical Chair shall determine the number of regional contests to be held, following the rules as published by Optimist International.
 - a) If a two region system is selected, the top two girl contestants and the top two boy contestants from each region will advance to the District Oratorical Contest, without determining a regional winner.
 - b) If a three region system is selected, the top girl contestant and the top boy contestant from each region will advance to the District Oratorical Contest.
- 8. District Contests. Awards to be presented at the district contest are District participation certificates to all participants and plaques to the girl winner and boy winner, and girl and boy second place winners. The girl and boy winners will be awarded scholarships by the Optimist International Foundation in accordance with the Optimist International rules.

F. Poster Contest

- 1. The District Poster Contest will be held at the third quarter district conference. The district contest will be conducted under the direction of the District Chair, who is appointed by the Governor.
- 2. The poster contest will be open to fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students. There shall be boys and girls divisions.
- 3. Each club may submit one boy winner and one girl winner to the district finals.
- 4. Monetary awards, to be determined by the Governor, shall be given to first, second and third winner for each division.

5. Posters shall be horizontal 22”x 14” in size.
6. The posters shall include only original artwork. No computer-generated or printed pictures or wording are allowed.
7. The back of the poster should contain the following information: grade, gender, teacher’s name, student’s full name, address, and phone number.
8. An entry fee, to be determined by the Governor and District Chair, must accompany each entry.

Supplies

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Illinois District History and Past Governors

The first Optimist club is recorded to have been formed in Buffalo, New York in 1916. At that same general time clubs were also forming in Indianapolis Indiana; as well as Syracuse and Rochester, New York among other places.

In May of 1917 the first conference of these Optimist clubs was held at the national headquarters in Indianapolis. Thirteen (13) clubs attended that conference, and among those thirteen were the Optimist clubs of Chicago, Peoria, and Springfield, Illinois.

In 1919 the first convention was held in Louisville, Kentucky, and on June 19th the association of clubs that is known today as Optimist International was formed. In 1922, the convention held that year approved the first official emblem of Optimist International and also adopted the "Optimist Creed" as our organization's official creed.

We can trace the roots of the Illinois District to the beginning in 1917. From 1919 through 1964, clubs in Illinois were part of many separate sections and districts (districts 8, 12, 17, and 23). A lot of information has been lost in history, though the International staff has been able to provide some information. Many past governors are not listed below simply because the information has been lost. In 1964 our clubs became members of two new and distinct districts as Optimist International began to use names for districts rather than just numbers. Our clubs became part of either the Northern Illinois District, or the Central Southern Illinois District.

In 1970 the two separate districts were combined to unite all of the clubs in the state into one Optimist District—the Illinois District. This district retained the identification number of (12). Our rich history can be traced by the members who have served as Governor of our district or its predecessors. Three of our past Governors are counted among those who have served as President of Optimist International; James W. Chilton, Harlington Wood, and Gene Sternberg.

Listed below are our governors from the beginning in 1922 to the present. Signs behind names indicate:

= Distinguished Governor

\< = International Director

* = International Vice President

+ = International President

(- = International Vice President Elect

YEAR	GOVERNOR	DIST.	CLUB AFFILIATION
1919-20	J.L. Schoen	Sect. 2	Chicago, IL
1919-20	W.K. Robertson	Sect. 6	Springfield, IL
1920-21	O.L. Prohaska	Sect. 2	Chicago, IL
1920-21	E.E. Hagler	Sect. 6	Springfield, IL
1922-23	J ames W. Chilton +	Dist. 12	St. Louis, MO
1923-24	Dr. W.A. Henckle	Dist. 8	Peoria, IL
1924-25	Harlington Wood	Dist. 8	Springfield, IL
1925-26	Harlington Wood	Dist. 8	Springfield, IL
1926-27	Harlington Wood +	Dist. 8	Springfield, IL
1927-28	Paul Farthing	Dist. 8	East St. Louis, IL
1928-29	Paul Farthing *	Dist. 8	East St. Louis, IL
1929-30	Frank Scharlott	Dist. 8	St. Louis, MO
1930-31	Lawrence C. Horton	Dist. 12	Oak Park, IL
1931-32	H. Edward Reeves	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1932-33	Merritt M. Ramstead	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1933-34	Merritt M. Ramstead	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1934-35	A.C. Pearson Jr.	Dist. 12	Wilmette, IL
1935-36	Harry M. Weeks	Dist. 12	Gary, IN
1936-37	Emile O. Bloche	Dist. 12	Oak Park, IL
1937-38	Emile O. Bloche *	Dist. 12	Oak Park, IL
1938-39	Melvin O. Ferch	Dist. 12	Hammond, IN
1939-40	Albert O. Olson	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1940-41	Charles W. Apley	Dist. 12	Evanston, IL
1941-42	George W. Reinke	Dist. 12	Chicago (Austin), IL
1942-43	Charles W. Thompkins	Dist. 12	Hammond, IL
1943-44	Henry R. Freitag	Dist. 12	Rock Island, IL
1944-45	E. Jay Wilttrout	Dist. 12	Gary, IN
1945-46	Vaughn V. Moore	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1946-47	Ralph Stephenson	Dist. 12	Moline, IL
1947-48	Elmer P. Langguth	Dist. 12	Oak Park, IL
1948-49	LaVerne Burche	Dist. 12	Rock Island, IL
1948-49	William A. Hammitt	Dist. 23	Normal, IL
1949-50	Herbert C. Berggrun	Dist. 12	Harvey, IL
1949-50	Van W. Haverton	Dist. 23	Peoria, IL
1950-51	James F. Bates	Dist. 12	Kewanee, IL

YEAR	GOVERNOR	DIST.	CLUB AFFILIATION
1950-51	Clarence C. Hoogland	Dist. 23	Springfield, IL
1951-52	Fred W. Hauser	Dist. 12	Chicago, IL
1951-52	Richard W. Velde	Dist. 23	Havana, IL
1952-53	Loyle Tharp	Dist. 12	Moline, IL
1952-53	Claude J. Hesh	Dist. 23	Macomb, IL
1953-54	Robert E. Blomquist	Dist. 12	Harvey, IL
1953-54	Arthur Roseman	Dist. 8	Granite City, IL
1954-55	Paul A. Knabe	Dist. 12	Rock Falls, IL
1954-55	Charles E. Tyrell	Dist. 23	Peoria, IL
1955-56	Vincent Johnson	Dist. 12	Rockford, IL
1955-56	Arthur Scheele	Dist. 23	Springfield, IL
1956-57	Alfred G. Waffle \<	Dist. 12	Moline, IL
1956-57	Rev. Oscar Bohman	Dist. 23	Canton, IL
1957-58	Gene Sternberg * +	Dist. 8	Granite City, IL
1957-58	Henry S. Pettett	Dist. 12	Evanston, IL
1957-58	Kirby R. Clugsten	Dist. 23	Peoria, IL
1958-59	Norman T. Peterson	Dist. 12	Des Plaines, IL
1958-59	Dr. R. B. Sweetland	Dist. 23	Decatur, IL
1959-60	William Marlies	Dist. 12	Rock Island, IL
1959-60	John J. Blake	Dist. 23	Springfield, IL
1960-61	Henry R. Weller	Dist. 12	Evanston, IL
1960-61	Gene Hermann	Dist. 23	Havana, IL
1961-62	Francis Ortman	Dist. 12	Rock Island, IL
1961-62	Henry J. Wittlich	Dist. 23	Belleville, IL
1962-63	Earl N. Simpson	Dist. 12	Aurora, IL
1962-63	Fred W. Hendricks	Dist. 23	Farmersville, IL
1963-64	Joseph W. Folz	Dist. 12	Des Plaines, IL
1963-64	Alford O. Leffler *	Dist. 23	Mt. Vernon, IL
1964-65	Robert D. Winter	Northern Illinois	Rock Island, IL
1964-65	Elmer Von Behren #	Central/Southern IL	Springfield, IL
1965-66	Kelly Wilkins	Northern Illinois	Loves Park, IL
1965-66	Elmer C. Ruehl	Central/Southern IL	Belleville, IL
1966-67	Mark Brooks Jr. *	Northern Illinois	Oak Park, IL
1966-67	Ralph Kreiling	Central/Southern IL	Forest City, IL
1967-68	Kenneth A. Kehe	Northern Illinois	Des Plaines, IL
1967-68	Charles Linquist	Central/Southern IL	Springfield, IL
1968-69	W. Standley Fuller	Northern Illinois	Moline, IL
1968-69	R. W. Christiansen	Central/Southern IL	Fairview Heights, IL
1969-70	Howard Rockafellow	Northern Illinois	Geneva, IL
1969-70	Warren D. Nichols	Central/Southern IL	East Peoria, IL
1970-71	Jack Leady	Illinois	Fairview Heights, IL
1971-72	Joseph W. Folz	Illinois	Des Plaines, IL
1972-73	Don Calvert	Illinois	DuQuoin, IL
1973-74	Robert F. James	Illinois	Aurora, IL

YEAR	GOVERNOR	DIST.	CLUB AFFILIATION
1974-75	Wilney Braddy	Illinois	Mt. Vernon, IL
1975-76	James Earnes	Illinois	Deerfield, IL
1976-77	Vance Wilson	Illinois	Belleville, IL
1977-78	S. Harold Roberts	Illinois	Alton. IL
1978-79	Chester M. Grafft	Illinois	Princeton, IL
1979-80	William Fitzpatrick	Illinois	Oak Park, IL
1980-81	Ralph Wrench	Illinois	Normal, IL
1981-82	Glenn Sparesus # *	Illinois	Des Plaines, IL
1982-83	Frank O. Brutcher	Illinois	Princeton, IL
1983-84	Ronald A. Grim	Illinois	Mason City, IL
1984-85	Rodney C. Senn	Illinois	Oswegoland, IL
1985-86	Robert R. Gaebel	Illinois	Quincy, IL
1986-87	William Ambuehl	Illinois	Highland, IL
1987-88	Donald Nicholas	Illinois	Peoria, IL
1988-89	Norman Hall	Illinois	Granite City, IL
1989-90	Scotty Canale #	Illinois	Taylorville, IL
1990-91	Thomas Croxton	Illinois	Alton, IL
1991-92	Thomas Croxton	Illinois	Alton, IL
1992-93	Richard Bentley	Illinois	Aurora, IL
1993-94	Gary Kessinger	Illinois	Highland, IL
1994-95	Burton Wikgren	Illinois	Belleville, IL
1995-96	Frank Duke # *	Illinois	Belleville, IL
1996-97	Milton Wiggers	Illinois	Springfield, IL
1997-98	Howard Dewell	Illinois	Quincy, IL
1998-99	Al Hippensteel	Illinois	Oak Park, IL
1999-00	Dr. Jack Cluney	Illinois	Decatur, IL
2000-01	Lloyd P. Kuehn, Jr	Illinois	Glenview, IL
2001-02	Debra Castiglia	Illinois	Decatur, IL
2002-03	Carmett "Corky" Helms	Illinois	Belleville, IL
2003-04	Kathryn Dewell	Illinois	Quincy, IL
2004-05	Dr. Jerry Wolf	Illinois	Vandalia, IL
2005-06	Michael Koenig	Illinois	Belleville, IL
2006-07	Jerry Emery	Illinois	Oswego, IL
2007-08	Jerry Emery	Illinois	Oswego, IL
2008-09	Stan Knecht	Illinois	Centralia, IL
2009-10	Chris Ladner	Illinois	DesPlaines, IL
2010-11	Martin Schmidt	Illinois	Silvis, IL
2011-12	Barry Montague	Illinois	Sterling, IL
2012-13	Roger Simonson	Illinois	Deerfield, IL
2013-14	Richard Volker	Illinois	Princeton, IL
2014-15	Bill West	Illinois	St. David, IL
2015-16	Steve Turner	Illinois	Taylorville, IL

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2016

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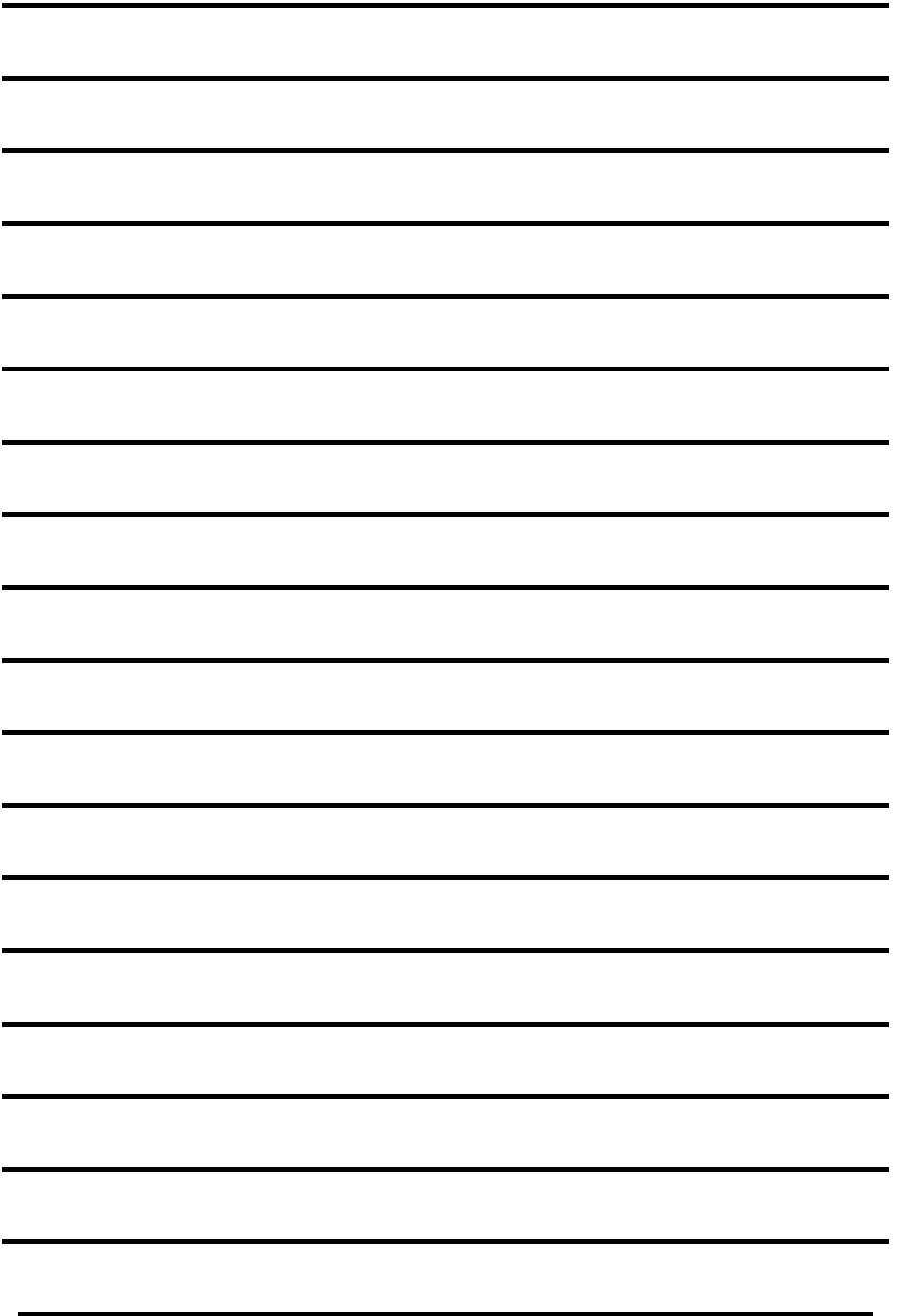
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PROMISE YOURSELF.....

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Our Purpose, Mission and Vision for Being...

The Purposes of Optimist International

- ✓ To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed;
- ✓ To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs;
- ✓ To inspire respect for the law;
- ✓ To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people;
- ✓ To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well- being of humankind, community life and the world.

Mission Statement

By providing hope and positive vision,
Optimists bring out the best in youth, our
communities and ourselves.

Vision Statement

Optimist International will be recognized worldwide as the premier
volunteer organization that values all children and helps them to
develop to their full potential..

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 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 too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.