

Continue the Excellence

The South Texas District had an excellent year last year. Under Governor Fay's leadership, great District Meetings provided a platform for some tremendous training, great Optimist fun, and execution of the District's business. Clubs in the District provided a myriad of wonderful programs to work with kids in local neighborhoods. So let's "*Continue the Excellence*".

With all the current political strife, and the evident change in our nation's focus, it is the kids who will be left out. They will need our caring and involvement more than ever. The strength of the Optimist movement will become very evident in the next few years, and it is up to us to give the kids more Optimists to help them. We need to continue all the good things we do, but we need to be serious about District growth. Jerry Eschberger and Ron Graves are again heading the District Membership and New Club Building, and each of us is on the District Membership committee.



In Corpus Christi, I have scheduled a meeting room at 2:00 Saturday afternoon. I wanted to have an open forum to listen to ideas you have, and answer any questions or concerns. So I will be there, and I hope you will feel free to drop in and discuss any and all subjects you want.

I hope to see all of you in Corpus Christi November 6th, 7th, and 8th. The Holiday Inn Emerald Beach is a great place for a meeting. Experience the perfect blend of casual relaxation and business convenience, with the most unique hotel location in downtown Corpus Christi. Just minutes from downtown businesses, you can enjoy fresh sea air and sand between your toes as you walk the beach behind the hotel. The spacious bay front rooms, with fantastic views of the bay and marina feature free high-speed Internet. Just a ten minute drive or open air trolley ride gets you to area attractions, such as Texas State Aquarium or the USS Lexington Museum. See you there...

--Governor Jack Hopkins

LEADERSHIP TRAINING - WE CAN DO THIS

By now I'm sure most clubs have kicked off their programs as we kick off our new Optimist year. I know for sure that our Governor Jack is working hard to ensure that we "**Continue the Excellence**" that this District is renowned for throughout Optimist International.

As we approach our 1st Quarter Conference I would ask you to confer with your club and plan to attend. We are working hard to ensure we present programs of interest and value for the members at the Conferences throughout the year. The opportunities for our members and clubs can reach far beyond mere attendance.

We believe that the University of Optimism will once more surpass past successes. I feel confident that the classes we have scheduled for the 1st Quarter Conference will be fresh, informative and of real value. At the 1st Quarter Conference I have planned classes on specifically how to conduct a NOW

Program meeting, Internet Safety that was so informative and well received at the 4th Quarter Convention, a New Member Orientation (so please ask that all of your new members attend the conference), a class outlining the Oratorical Contest club procedures, How to Prepare and Submit a CPA Book, and Using the Optimist Internet Sites (also a favorite at the 4th Quarter Convention). Each program has been designed with the goal of providing viable topics of genuine value to our members and our Clubs with the hope of generating more interest in attending the Conference. Come and visit with us for these dynamic classes.

Ask your members attending the Conference to bring new members to the Conference so they can share the Optimist experience. And please remember together we can have a genuinely successful year, and by doing so we can surely "**Continue the Excellence!**"

—Al Randez, Leadership Development Director

A MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-ELECT

I can find no better words than to say “Thank You” to all of you who provided support, advice and reassurances while I was considering being a nominee, and to all of you who elected me to be your Governor in 2010-2011. I pray that I can bring the same honor to the position as those who have gone before me.

Like many of you, I looked upon our recent blending of two districts into one with some trepidation. I should have paid more attention to our Optimist Creed and thought only of the best, worked only for the best, and expected only the best, because that’s where we’re headed. Thanks to very capable leadership at the Club and District levels, the South Texas District is on the way to becoming the best in Optimist International.

But we’re not quite there yet. While I was being interviewed by the Candidate Qualifications Committee after my nomination, I was asked my opinion of the major problem in our District and what I would do about it. Without thinking as long as I should have, I replied, “Apathy.” I had used that word often in the past when I saw the miniscule number of eligible voters that bothered to vote at a local election, the few that showed up at neighborhood association meetings, or the diminishing number of attendees at church. Later, I looked up the definition of “apathy,” and I found synonyms like “heartlessness,” “insensitivity,” and “indifference.” I certainly don’t know any Optimists that fit that mold, and so I realized I had, in my ignorance, chosen the wrong word.

So how should I have answered? I know the District has an aging membership, and possibly health issues have led to lower attendance at District meetings. I know that the District is large, and so perhaps travel expenses have become a problem. And I could have used the number one scapegoat we have today – the economy. Maybe “Cash for Clunkers” has become more important than “Concern for Children.” Should I have mentioned all three?

Had I the opportunity to answer the question again, I think I would say, “Forgetfulness.”

I think a lot of us have forgotten the reasons we became Optimists. At a recent rather large class at the International Convention in Florida, the instructor asked, “Who can tell me what our Mission Statement is?” She was met with silence! Finally, in a raised voice, she said, “By providing hope and a positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in kids.” Perhaps a lot of us have forgotten those words. We also may not remember that warm feeling we got when we conducted a successful youth project, or when a youth, parent, or teacher told us, “Thank you for what you do.”

So my solution to the problem is to remind fellow Optimists what we’re all about. I hope to accomplish that through our Lieutenant Governors and our Presidents. More than the social aspect of Optimism, which is still important, we should treasure the kids, for they are our future. I hope you will all remember that as we continue to revitalize the District.

—Hank Hollyday, Governor-Elect

Youth Clubs, What’s In It For Me?

As I enter my 37th year of working with youth through Optimist International, I can look back and use the years of hindsight to evaluate what has and has not worked for me and my goals. I had a goal, years ago to build and sustain one of the largest most effective youth clubs in the entire organization. With the exception of a club or two that combined schools in an area, the club I worked with achieved that status on more than one occasion. So, as I look back of the 9 years of work with this particular club, I can see that I would count the “What’s In It For Me?” factor as the most important singular factor that counted towards the success we have achieved.

There is not one Optimist Club member out there reading this article that can not identify the exact factor that has made them and kept them working in Optimism. Year after year, day in and day out those motivating factors have kept you in Optimism, working to help the youth of today. Does it really matter what your motivation is, so long as the result is the success of our youth of tomorrow’s society? I have a challenge for you as you think about your answer: Build a youth club, get involved with a youth club or sponsor a youth club. You see, it is that cadre of youth that you bring together that will form the future of our wonderful organization.

There is a library of resources available from Optimist International for you to learn about building and sustaining a youth club, whether it is an Alpha Club, Junior Optimist Club, Octagon Club or Collegiate Club. At the upcoming 2nd Quarterly Conference our South Texas District youth members will be on hand to help with a Youth Club Building workshop. I can only assure that there will not be enough time to answer all your questions, but there will be ample time to help you understand the concept of “What’s In It For Me?” as it applies to our youth. Make your plans now to be there and learn about building our Optimist future.

—Sam N. Saenz, Past OI VP, District Youth Chairperson

“New Club Building” IS NOW “New Community Growth”

Optimist International has changed the name but the mission and purpose is still the same: “BUILD MORE CLUBS” in more communities. And, one might consider the fact that the definition of a “COMMUNITY” does not necessarily mean a town or city. Communities are made up often within towns and cities. A community can be an area where a group of people with the same interests, schools, shopping areas, churches, businesses, and other common likes are located.

Governor Jack and I are working together in 2009-10 to build 8 new “community clubs” within the South Texas District. This is less than one per zone, and actually, only one per every ten clubs in the district. I am confident that 1 of 10 clubs in the district can assist another community and working with those who have an interest in the youth of their community can build a club. Your club would not exist today had not someone years ago decided to assist your club in forming within your community to

help kids reach their potential. I ask that each club in 2009-10 consider giving back to others, and especially the kids we serve, by assisting other communities in building a new club.

Whether we call it New Club Building or New Community Growth, our mission is the same. We have probably 5 million kids in the South Texas District in need of an Optimist club within their community. Let’s go out in Governor Jack’s year and build eight (8) or more and touch the lives of at least 14,000 of those who need Optimism in their lives.

You may contact me about assistance with New Community Growth questions at ron@optimisticday.com or call me at 210-860-2323.

—Ron Graves, New Community Growth Director

A & A

Our Achievements and Awards program is on the backstretch as we wind down this year of “Going Back to the Future” with Governor Fay. Although participation has been a bit slow, it is starting to pick up as interest started gathering at our District Convention in San Antonio as the “Competition Bug” started peaking around the corner.

As mentioned at the beginning of this year – this program is the best way for each and every Club to be recognized for the hard work they do each quarter and to be PROUD of their club and to SHOUT out their triumphs at each District meeting as their Clubs are recognized for turning in their paper work.

Our winners thus far have been:

First Quarter:	Third Place:	Galveston Noon
	Second Place:	North Austin
	First Place:	LaGrange

Second Quarter:	Third Place:	LaGrange
	Second Place:	North Austin
	First Place:	Schertz-Cibolo

Third Quarter:	Third Place:	Pflugerville
	Second Place:	North Austin
	First Place:	Galveston Noon

The final A&A report of the year is due to me by **OCTOBER 10, 2009**. There are several ways to get your final report to me to get included in the last quarter race. STxD website – stxd.org / “Programs” on the left side / Achievements and Awards / Fill out the form and hit submit. Some of you don’t trust the website so print out the form – and fax it to me at (512) 891-0402; or send it to me in the mail 5407 Sunshine Drive – Austin, TX 78756; or email it to me olga.henson@teradyne.com.

All Clubs that submit a report are recognized at the meetings, not just the top winners – so....be Proud of your Club – let the District know of your Achievements and SHOUT your Pride at our next District meeting in Corpus!

—Olga Henson— A & A Chairperson

Internet Safety

As a parent or grandparent, do you know who your children are conversing with on the internet???? Do you even know how to access the computer to find out who your children are conversing with????

Optimist International has introduced a new program whose intent is to educate parents and adults that work with children about the growing threat of Internet predators and online dangers and to provide some tools to help keep children safe while on the Internet.

Dangers of the Internet are a very real risk to children, but unlike other threats to children, the issue of online dangers is preventable through education. If children and adults learn early about the dangers online, they will not become victims of Internet crimes.

This new program will be presented during training at the 1st quarter district meeting, so make plans to attend and learn how to help today’s children through educating their parents.

—Fay Hopkins, Internet Safety Chairperson

Membership

Well it is time to turn the page on last year and make a dynamic start with the new year. We are so blessed with opportunity for service and everyone will agree that the more members we have the more service we can provide. All clubs are encouraged to set membership goals as we enter this new year. To fulfill your goals it will require **action** on the part of someone; that means someone will have to actually **extend an invitation**. Identify who. It is so rewarding to bring in a new member and see them get involved with service to our youth and the community. Your club can have an outstanding year of growth and service with the addition of some new members, new thoughts, and new ideas.

How can we keep the members we now have? We must have meetings that are worth attending. We have the responsibility of keeping them **interesting, fun, and informative**. Start a new activity so your club will not become stagnant. We all have a responsibility for improving our club and making a difference in our communities.

Join me in getting it done.

—Jerry Eschberger, Membership Director

Optimist, Can You Spare a Dime?

Throughout this Optimist Year we will be exploring the various programs of the Optimist International Foundation, and we will learn more of the benefits made available to all of our Clubs by supporting the Foundation. Our first quarter emphasis will be on two programs, the individual *Dime-A-Day* and the club *Dollar-A-Day* programs.

Dime-A-Day: Can you spare a dime a day? Not really difficult when you understand that a dime a day helps build a future where every kid counts. So, let's get started with a few tips on how you can achieve success with this program. How about by passing the vending machine or skipping the fries (Boy I know I need to do this). How about ordering plain coffee instead of a "Grande Cappuccino," or how about the suggestion that we heard at the recent DFR meeting. The point was made that most every day we wind up with loose change in our pocket or purse. Why not have a container on your dresser and make a deposit of the days change regardless of the amount.

Now what do you get for this effort? Well, for your final gift of \$36.50 you will receive from the Foundation a Certificate of Appreciation along with a beautiful lapel pin. From the South

Texas District, if you have completed your gift on or before July 1, 2010, your name will be entered into a drawing for a free registration, including meals, at our 2010 District Convention. But most rewarding is the satisfaction of knowing that by supporting the Foundation you provide for scholarships and other needed programs for the kids.

Dollar-A-Day: This is a club focused program in which your club is being asked to give an unrestricted gift of \$365.00. This can be achieved through a special fund raiser as one of your annual service projects. Your club will be recognized by the Foundation and as a special bonus your club's name will be entered into a drawing for a complete set of hand crafted golf clubs valued at more than \$650.00. You can in turn use the clubs as a fund raiser or in any fashion left to your club's imagination.

So come on Optimists, let's get motivated. If your club has yet to name a Club Foundation Representative (CFR), now is the time to do so. There will be more information available at the South Texas District meeting in November, as we gather in Corpus Christi.

—Ed Finn, District Foundation Representative

Climb To The Top

I would like to thank Hank Hollyday, who has really worked hard to increase the number of district members participating in the Personal Growth & Involvement (PGI) program in the last year. "Job well done, Hank!"

When I was asked by Jack and Hank to be the 2009-2010 PGI Director, I thought "Why me? I'm just at Level I, nowhere near the top at Level X". So I sat down with my personal PGI passports and started marking off all of the requirements that I had already accomplished in my few years as an Optimist member. It was amazing to see how many requirements I was easily able to check off by just going to meetings and getting involved with both my club and our district helping so many children. I would like to ask you to take a few minutes to sit down and see how high you too, have climbed. I'm sure that everyone has experienced highs and lows throughout the past year, but that is all the more reason to "CLIMB TO THE TOP" in the PGI program, where the view is so self-fulfilling – just ask one of our own Level X district members.

There will be many chances to advance your personal ranking in the PGI program, including training modules that will be conducted at all of the district meetings and other surprises during the coming year. I encourage you to continue (or start) your climb, as I plan to do.

It's hard to believe we are already welcoming in the 2009-2010 new year. If you are currently climbing the PGI ladder – GREAT, keep going! If not, why not start your climb right now? For more information or help getting your club members started in this worthwhile program, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to our "CLIMB TO THE TOP" together this year!

— Sue Stuart, PGI Director

2009-2010 Essay Contest

NEW THIS YEAR—THE DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST WINNER WILL RECEIVE A \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIP

Now is the time to begin preparations for your Club's Essay Contest. If your Club does not currently have an Essay Contest you should start participating. This is a great opportunity to give the youth in your area writing experience as well as a chance for a share of the scholarship money awarded at the various levels of competition. Your Club needs only one member to participate but several members can join in if they are available.

The Club chairperson first becomes familiar with the rules and sets the dates for the contest to begin and end. He or she then gives the applications to schools, churches and other places where you serve youth in your area. The chairperson then selects three qualified judges who are not acquainted with the writers of the essays to pick the top three essays from all of the essays received. At the Club level, the judges may be Optimist members. Finally, the Club chairperson delivers the Club's winning essay to the District Chairperson.

Cost

- A \$10.00 fee to South Texas District is required.
- Each Club usually awards medallions to their three winners. These are optional and cost about \$20.00.
- Other awards are permitted. Details are in the Club Chair's rules.

Benefits

- Participants get experience writing the essays.
- The District winner receives a Scholarship of \$2,500.00.
- The International winners receive a Scholarship of \$6,000 for 1st place, \$3,750 for 2nd place, and \$2,250 for 3rd place.
- The Club has an opportunity for a meeting program. Invite the three winners to a meeting to read their essays and receive their awards. Also, invite their parents.

Summary of Key Items

- The official topic for 2009-2010 is: "The Internet: Today's Evolution or Tomorrow's Menace?"
- The essay contest is open to youth under the age of 19 as of December 31, 2009.
- The Club winning essay along with the other required documents and the \$10.00 District fee must be received by the District contest chair on or before February 28, 2010. The rules and the needed forms can be found on the South Texas District web site. Go to www.stxd.org and under PROGRAMS click on "Essay Contest". Clubs that do not have access to the web should contact me at (281) 597-1300 and leave your name, mailing address and a message requesting a copy of the rules and the application.

—Greg Lester, Essay Contest Chair person

Orange Noon — Optimist Village Update

To update you on the burned out building. It is moving along real well. The brick layers are two thirds the way through. The metal roof was started on September the 7th. Electricians and plumbers are here. The new French Patio doors are here and all of the air conditioners are here in the parking lot. We are targeting Thanksgiving for our finish date or that's what the builders say. I say at least Christmas time.

The residents that were displaced by the fire have started to call. The flood people call and the whole town is calling to ask us when we are going to open our waiting list.

Our own residents that were burned out are still in great need of furniture any kind. Tables & chairs, recliners, couches. We are buying everyone a new bed. Wednesday the 19th of August we had a BBQ Fundraiser, lots of workers and residents came. We did around \$500. That will all go toward helping residents replace their furniture. The money goes so fast and the work is so hard.

—Darlene Wissing, Orange Noon Optimist Club

Community Project Awards Program

Last year one of the requirements to make Honor Club was to do a Community Project Awards book in the category of Community Service or Fundraising. International is continuing this requirement.

Because there have been many changes to the program it is imperative that you download the new rules and regulations. All of the CPA information, including rules, format and deadlines is available on the Optimist website, www.Optimist.org.

If you did not get to take the training on the CPA books last year, come to the first quarter board meeting

November 6-8 in Corpus Christi. There will be hands on training on how to put the CPA books together. This training will take place 11:00-11:25 in the Marlin room on Saturday, November 7. There will be a sample CPA book to look at and all questions will be answered.

I look forward working with each of the clubs to achieve this goal.

If you have questions please feel free to call me at 361-664-4229 or Cell # 361-701-7188. You can also email me at maggieliz@sbcglobal.net.

See in you Corpus Christi.

—Margaret Smith, Community Project Awards Chairperson.

Recognition is not For Me!

Attention to Orders, Citation to Accompany the Award of the Meritorious Service Medal to Terry E. Hickman.

As I stood eyes to eyes with the General, chills ran down my spine as I heard my name, when he pinned that medal to my chest I was grinning ear to ear and returned his salute proudly. I thought that I was just doing my job and that someone else deserves this honor. Then it came to me, someone thought I deserved this honor, someone was willing to put his name on this citation and the General agreed. I was forced to accept that award.

As I sat in Lt. Governor training, Ed Finn asked us this question, "How many of you have not participated in the Personal Growth & Involvement program (PGI)?" I and almost everyone in the room raised their hand. Wow! He exclaimed, you all have been presidents and most are becoming Lt. Governor for the second or more times. The next question was "How many of you have been Builders of Excellence?" Many hands went up, including mine. "Oh, my goodness, everyone in this room should be a Level V or higher. Then he pulled the white & gold PGI Passport out and went page for page to show us how we qualified for each level and then he asked, how many of us had encouraged other members to participate in the PGI program.? Only a few hands went up. I then realized that I was not a very good leader if I didn't participate in a program that made better Optimist.

The Military realizes the importance of recognition and many times an individual has no choice. Down deep I was proud to be recognized. This program builds a good Optimist, and then recognizes their accomplishments. You owe it to your club, its members, and the kids. After all, I am submitting this article as the final step in Level VII. I owe it to Optimism!

I can't say it better, the following is from the O.I. site:

Personal Growth & Involvement (P.G.I.) Program

There are many benefits to becoming an Optimist. And since "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" is the consensus top benefit, the organization's Personal Growth & Involvement (P.G.I.) program ranks a cool second. Where else can you become a more knowledgeable volunteer?

The P.G.I. program offers every Optimist member the opportunity to learn more about Optimism while advancing through 10 levels of involvement, leadership growth and achievement.

The P.G.I. program will make you a better volunteer. Through communication training, self-development modules and other personal growth activities, Optimist International is giving you a fantastic opportunity to continue to learn and grow into a leader.

—Terry Hickman, Lt.. Governor

THANKS FOR THE MEMORY

Those of you who've been around for a while are sure to remember comedian Bob Hope's theme song, "Thanks For The Memory." That song might well also be the theme song of those Optimists who relive their club's history through scrapbooks. This article is being prepared well in advance of the final judging for the 2008-2009 Scrapbook Contest, and I hope to see an increased number of submissions from that Optimist year. Still, I want to encourage more clubs in the South Texas District to participate in this rewarding contest.

What's in it for me and my club, you ask? There are several benefits, each of which probably justifies the effort put forth by your club's scrapbook chairman (and his or her committee members):

1. At a N.O.W. meeting, one scrapbook is worth a thousand words when you want to describe to a potential new member what your Optimist club does.
2. Your club may win a plaque for the best scrapbook in your division, an award your members will be proud to display.
3. Your outgoing club President will be honored to become custodian of his/her year's scrapbook.
4. If your club has elderly members (as most of our clubs have), each year's scrapbook will help you to remember those individuals when they are no longer with us.

I have changed the Scrapbook Contest rules slightly this year with regard to mailing of scrapbooks. Contest rules will be available on line at stxd.org and I will have some copies with me at the First Quarter District Meeting. I look forward to seeing all of you in Corpus Christi. Good scrapbooking!

—Marieroze Hollyday, Scrapbook Chairperson

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

"CYBER COMMUNICATION: PROGRESS OR PROBLEM?"

This year's Oratorical competition will feature \$2500, as the grand prize, for each boy and girl winner. Sponsorship opportunities regarding naming rights are now available (e.g., The Ron & Kitty Graves Oratorical Scholarship). There are two avenues an individual or business can pursue, regarding naming rights. Please announce this to all of your club members, and get the word out to all schools, churches and any other youth affiliated organizations interested in participating, in this year's contest. Contact me or Ron Graves (gravesronn@cs.com), for more information. All suggested District Deadline Dates, for Club, Zone and Regional Contests - will be posted on the STXD website. District winners must be submitted to Optimist International, by June 15, 2010.

I will be holding a training session, at the 1ST Quarter District Meeting in Corpus Christi. All Lt. Governors and new Club Presidents should try and attend. We will have a few surprises!! Start enlisting your members **now** to volunteer, for the Oratorical Chair position for your club. This is the oldest running program for Optimist International, and it is a true expression of heart, to be involved in the development of tomorrow's leaders.

Please contact me at hijodejuan@sbcglobal.net, with questions, or call 210-452-8862 . Specific information regarding OI rules and regulations, can be found at optimist.org, or stxd.org.

—Bill Johnson, Oratorical Chairperson

Schedule of Events

	Friday – November 6	
Golf Tournament	Call Jerry Smith 361-701-7944	
Hello Party	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Kokomos
	Saturday – November 7	
Breakfast	At your Leisure	
Registration	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	
Executive Board Meeting	8:00 am – 9:30 am	Marlin
Training—Internet Safety	10:00 am – 10:45 am	Catamaran
Training—NOW Program	10:00 am – 10:25 am	Marlin
Training —New Member Orientation	10:30 am – 10:55 am	Marlin
Training —Internet—OI & District	11:00 am – 11:45 am	Catamaran
Training —CPA Books	11:00 am – 11:25 am	Marlin
Training —Oratorical Contest	11:30 am – 11:55 am	Marlin
Lunch	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Kokomos
Open Discussion Session	2:00 pm — ??????	Catamaran
Social	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Kokomos
Dinner	7:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Kokomos
	Sunday – November 8	
Breakfast	8:00 am – 9:00 am	Kokomos

**South Texas District
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ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Optimist International:
<http://www.optimist.org>
South Texas District:
www.stxd.org



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

Purposes of the Optimist Club

- ◆ To develop optimism as a philosophy of life;
- ◆ 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 man, his community and world.