

# Continue the Excellence

I hope all of you had a joyous Holiday Season, and that your New Year has started on a high note. We are now in the second quarter of our Optimist year. Hard to believe the last three months passed so quickly!

Early December saw your Governor and New Community Growth Director Ron Graves attend a Regional Conference in Dallas organized by Vice President Ed Finn and with Optimist International Mark Schriver and President-Elect Danny Rogers and other Governors and others from the Southwestern Region in attendance. January 8, 9, and 10<sup>th</sup> was a combined International Governor/Governor-Elect Conference in Kissimmee Florida attended by myself and Governor -Elect Hank Hollyday. So with all of the training at these conferences I should be much smarter, right!

One thing I did confirm at these meetings is that one of the best things you can give to a friend is the Optimist experience. Each of us enjoys our Optimist Clubs and the kids and the projects we do. We should share this joy with all we meet. As always,

we need growth. New members and new Clubs are very important to ensure that we continue to help the kids in our areas.

I hope all of you are planning to attend the Second Quarter District Meeting in

Houston on February 26, 27 & 28<sup>th</sup>. Alvin Marshal has again coordinated the details of this meeting, so we can be assured of a great time. Our Director of Leadership

Development, Al Randez, promises some great training and we will once again have an open Q & A session in the afternoon.

Following dinner Saturday evening Immediate Past Governor Fay Hopkins will have her awards banquet. Since the South Texas District achieved Distinguished status for 2008-2009 there should be quite a few awards. All those Lt. Governors, Club Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers from 2008-2009 who are receiving awards will be recognized. It should be a great time.

Continue the Excellence,

Jack Hopkins, Governor



the **optimist** difference... it's all in our **name!**

