



West Missouri District Newsletter

October 2009

Volume 1

Number 1



Optimists, start your engines!

On October 1, 2009, the green flag waives and the “West Missouri 365” and the “Race to the WEMO Cup” begins!

Greetings West Missouri Optimists! The goal this year is to provide you and your club with the tools, excitement, inspiration, enthusiasm and desire to grow and help the children in your community. As the “Friend of Youth”, it is our responsibility and honor as Optimists to mentor children and show them how to become better students and outstanding citizens within their schools and communities with the hope that they “pay it forward” as they grow and mature into adults. Poet Khalil Gibran wrote: “*A friend is your needs answered.*” The youth of today need us and we, as Optimists, are the answer. With the backing of over 90,000 Optimists throughout the world, we will not disappoint. What a wonderful experience it is to see the smile on a child’s face after he or she has participated in a fishing derby, bicycle rodeo or safety program, Optimist-sponsored scholarship contests or sporting events, or any program or project that is unique to your club. The accomplishments of these kids speak volumes.



Meet 2009/2010 Governor Debbie Hill

Please take a moment to mark your calendar with the dates for the upcoming conferences and conventions and make plans to attend. Informational and upbeat sessions will be on the agenda at the district meetings and facilitated by representatives and certified trainers from Optimist International as well as from our own district. The Leadership Development Committee is planning programs that will consist of identifying growth opportunities, membership, Internet safety, PGI (Personal Growth and Involvement) modules, and much more! Past International President Ronnie Dunn will be our certified trainer/guest for the first quarter district conference November 13-14 in Jefferson City. The second quarter conference is scheduled for February in Independence with Indiana’s Linda Stein tentatively scheduled to

facilitate programs throughout the weekend. Our third-quarter conference will host the district oratorical contest and the communication contest for the deaf and hard of hearing (CCDHH). Judi Smith, the executive director of the Optimist International Foundation (and a member of the Springfield Summit club) is tentatively scheduled to attend. The international convention in Denver in July 2010 will provide you with numerous opportunities to meet Optimists from around the world and exchange ideas on serving children and growth. We will near the end of the 2009-2010 year with the district convention in Joplin in August. Information, inspiration, enthusiasm, fellowship and optimism will abound throughout the year.

Goals for the year are posted in this newsletter and we will keep you informed in each edition on our progress. Please take a moment to review them and see how you can help your club attain these goals. They may seem aggressive, but with us all working together, they are attainable. You may notice we will occasionally use racing terminology throughout 2009-2010. This will be an exciting theme throughout the year. West Missouri has a fine-tuned team and we are looking

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forward to a fast-paced year! We will take the positive momentum generated in 2008-2009 and carry it on into 2009-2010 and further into the future! When the checkered flag drops at the end of September 2010 and we cross the finish line, we will see that the number 36 West Missouri Team exceeded goals, established new clubs, grew existing clubs, and served a record number of kids. Growth equals more clubs, more members, and subsequently more kids served. After all, it is all about the kids and the kids will be on their way to the Winner's Circle and the West Missouri District will be in Victory Lane!

So please join me for the "West Missouri 365 Sponsored by Optimist International" race and the "Desire to Inspire...For the Kids" year! I am proud to be an Optimist and I look forward to working with each and every one of you to help the kids in your community!

We're off and running! See you in Jefferson City for the first quarter conference!

Yours in Optimism,

Governor Debbie

District Meetings

First Quarter Conference
November 13-14, 2009
Truman Hotel
1510 Jefferson Street
Jefferson City, Mo. 65110
576-635-7171

Rate \$64.00
Hotel cut-off date 10/29/2009

Second Quarter Conference
February 12-13, 2010
Hilton Garden Inn
19677 Jackson Drive
Independence, Mo 64057
816-350-3535

Rate \$71.00
Hotel cut-off date 01/22/2010

Third Quarter Conference
April 30 - May 1, 2010
Radisson
120 S. Wildwood Drive
Branson, MO 56516
417-335-5767

Rate \$72.00
Hotel cut-off Date 04/05/2010

91st Optimist International Convention
July 7-10, 2010
Denver, Colorado
Rate

26th District Convention
August 5-6-7, 2010
Holiday Inn
2915 Range Line road
Joplin, Mo 64084
417-627-7802

Rate \$59.00
Hotel cut-off date 07/23/2010

Ronnie Dunn



Ronnie Dunn Past Optimist International President and certified trainer will be at our First Quarter Conference in Jefferson City. Ronnie will be doing some training and installing the new officers for the district.

Truman Hotel & Conference Center

The toll free number is 1-800-392-0202
 Direct # 576-635-7171
 The phone number is wrong on the sheet handed out at the Fourth Quarter Convention



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West Missouri District Goals 2009/2010

- All clubs achieve “Honor Club” status.
- 15 clubs achieve “Distinguished” status.
- Net increase in membership 3% or net +200.
- Build 5 new clubs.
- Build 8 new JOOI clubs.
- Gain 10 new “Friends of Optimists”.

NEWSLETTER Information

If you would like to have your club fund raiser and etc. in the next district newsletter e-mail to me not later than November 15, 2009

Since I am the District Bulletin Editor I need you to send me one of your bulletins each time it is sent out or e-mail me one at: pat-jns@sbcglobal.net , or mail to Pat Jones

301 Wisconsin
Excelsior Springs, Mo
64024

This is also where we can find out about Optimist Members that have passed away

Pat Jones

Governor-Elect



Bob Floyd

Member of El Dorado Springs Club
Spouse: Debbie
Children: Josh (Polly), Jamie (Adam)
Grandchild: Avery

Club Service:
Charter Member
Club President 1983-84
Club Secretary/Treasurer 1989-90
1995-96
Board Member
Chairman: Respect for Law
Jr. Optimist Club
Bike Safety
Youth Basketball
Oratorical
Youth Appreciation Week

District Level:
Lt. Governor 1986-87 Outstanding
Membership Chairman 1987-88
1988-89
Leadership and Development 1989-90
Sergeant at Arms 2007-2008
2008-2009

DO YOU WANT
YOUR CLUB
INFORMATION
HERE IN THE
NEXT ISSUE???

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DUES INCREASE

It was voted on and passed at the 91st Annual Convention in Kissimmee, Florida to increase all the dues by \$10.00 a year. This will begin with the Optimist Year 2009/2010.

Plan on attending the First Quarter Conference November 13-14, in Jefferson City. You will be able to meet this years Governor and our Governor-Elect.



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You can dream, create the most beautiful place in the world ... but it takes people to make that dream a reality.

Walt Disney

OI President 2009 - 2010



Mark Shiver

Dear Optimist Leaders,
The winds of change are upon us. As author Seth Godin writes, “Life’s too short to fight the forces of change. Life’s too short to hate what you do all day. Life’s way too short to make mediocre stuff.” Our children are changing, too, and our efforts on their behalf should never be mediocre. As you review this Recognition and Awards book, having your Club become Distinguished or Honor is far from being mediocre. I challenge you and your Club to soar for these levels of excellence.

“Hello, My Name is ...” is a new Membership program to allow Members to connect with potential Members as well as existing Optimists. It’s an effort to show that names are sacred but Optimists also care about the person behind the name. We hope the program also becomes a way

in which we reinforce the positive spirit of community.

As your President, I urge you to recruit at least one new Member in the 2009-2010 Optimist year. By doing so, you will be returning the favor your sponsor bestowed on you. Just think of the passion this will bring to your Club, which in turn benefits the children.

Thanks for your support

Thanks for your support and thanks for all you do to fulfill the Optimist mission of providing hope and positive vision to bring out the best in our children.

Optimistically,

Mark Shriver
2009-2010 Optimist
International President





Race to the WI

Each new member moves your Club closer to the Finish Line!

Three Categories: (Based on October 1, 2009 membership)

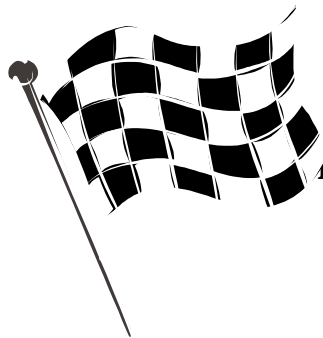
Clubs \leq 74 members (Medium Division)

Clubs \geq 75 members (Large Division)

New Clubs (Rookie Division)

Quarterly:

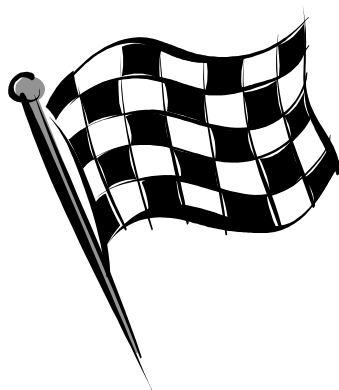
Club in each category that has greatest net gain in membership at the end of each quarter is awarded trophy.



Year-end (September 30):

**Club that has greatest net gain based on membership from October 1, 2009 to year-end September 30, 2010 awarded
THE WEMO CUP.**

**Lt. Governor: Zone that has greatest net gain at year-end
awarded
THE GOVERNOR'S TROPHY.**





HOST NIGHT PARTY, AUGUST 14, 2009



Summit ladies setting yet for the meal



Are we about ready to eat?



Kelly, you can't hide from the camera.



Group eating excellent BBQ
Did everybody find your
WANTED POSTER?

Springfield-Summit