

New Mexico/ West Texas District

The New

Sun, Sand & Sage

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2015-16 District & OI Officers

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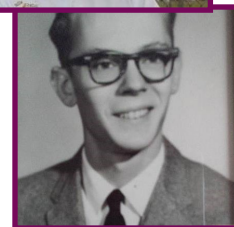
Words from Williams

KEEPING THE PROMISE

Another great Optimist year is before us. An exciting opportunity to get some of those projects completed we were unable to do this past year, more kids to help, new ways to contribute to our communities, always looking for ways to help and encourage each other. Optimists are great folks and I'm proud to be among them, aren't you? I am perplexed though that people keep asking me "What's Optimist International"? Most people know something about the Lions, Kiwanis or Masons, but telling them you're an Optimist often draws a blank stare. We can do something about that.

I think it's safe to say none of us joined Optimists to eat. There's nothing wrong with club meetings, fellowship and sharing a good meal, but we became Optimists to DO something good for our communities not just to eat. I'm asking every club to conduct at least one project, event, activity each month as a way to "show the flag", get out into the community and show people what it is we are about and DO.

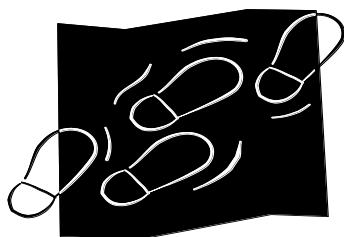
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First Quarter Conference Set for Las Cruces

The 1st Quarter District Conference will be held November 13-15th, in Las Cruces. The La Quinta Inn and Suites, located at 1500 Hickory is the host hotel. This Conference will include many training sessions for new and seasoned members alike, so make plans to attend now.

Conference/Convention Schedules 2015-16



November 13-15, 2015

February 11-14, 2016

May 13-15, 2016

June 30-July 2, 2016 (Int'l Conv)

August 12-14, 2016 (Dist. Conv.)

Las Cruces, NM

El Paso, TX

Roswell, NM

Quebec City, Quebec

Albuquerque, NM

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Each club has their annual signature projects. They may include; sports programs, bicycle rodeos, fund raising activities, community service projects, etc. Each of these are worth continuing and taking pride in, but every month we ought to do something as Optimists that not only helps kids and our communities but helps to display/define who we are. Monthly activities don't have to be annual signature events. They may include; dropping the monthly birthday cake off at the local children's shelter (don't forget to wear your club shirt or vest), set up an informal booth with other club members at a local shopping mall to greet shoppers and distribute Ol brochures describing what Optimists DO, take the opportunity to chat with passers-by about upcoming volunteer opportunities, volunteer at the local Library (wear your "colors"), these can be any of a thousand small events/activities that give you a chance to introduce people to Optimism, your club and maybe interest them in your volunteer activities. People are much more likely to agree to help with an activity than to join a club where they don't know anyone. During September; John Cowart, Sallie Rizzo, Tony Sayer and I set up community awareness tables at two New Mexico county fairs. We had a great time, told lots of folks what Optimism is and came away with several leads to follow up with of people who might be interested in joining us in volunteer activities. The type of monthly activities you can perform to show the Optimist flag is limited only by your imagination. I will make it a point to recognize clubs who do monthly events at the quarterly District meetings.

By the way, monthly activities are a good way to keep your members interested and involved. Wonder why you haven't seen "Julie" at recent club meetings? Maybe she's on a diet. J If you plan on doing something neat, let me know. I'll be glad to show up and participate. I plan on visiting clubs in Zone 5 during October.

Gary Williams

Save the Date - Quebec in 2016

The 98th Annual Optimist International Convention will be held in Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, June 30-July 2, 2016.

The events will take place downtown at the Quebec City Convention Centre. Just a short walk away is the Quebec Hilton, which will be the convention hotel. The area is surrounded by many memorable sights. Mark your calendar today and plan

on Rediscovering Your Optimism in Quebec City.



2015-16 District Executive Committee

Governor

Gary Williams

Governor-Elect

Ceci Ann Medina

Immediate Past Governor

John Cowart

Dist. Secretary/Treasurer

Lynne Martin

Lt. Governor-Zone 1

Suzann Owings

Lt. Governor-Zone 2

Suzann Owings

Lt. Governor-Zone 3

James E. White

Lt. Governor-Zone 4

John Cowart

Lt. Governor-Zone 5

Jack Barclay III

Lt. Governor-Zone 6

Howard W. Clark

Lt. Governor-Zone 7

Jack Sturgis

Lt. Governor-Zone 8

David Pynes



Optimist International Foundation 2015-16

Club Presidents.....

If you have not yet appointed a Club Foundation Representative, please do so as soon as possible. You can go online and make the appointment or forward the information to the District Foundation Rep, Susan Sears, at susansearsnmwt@yahoo.com.

Dime-a-Day

Let's break the record this year!

Keep informed with everything that is
happening in the district:

www.nmwtopoptimists.org




Sun, Sand & Sage

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NM/WTX DISTRICT

Bringing Out the Best in Kids!

**Keeping the
Promise!**



Int'l President Dave Brun's logo 2015-16



Schedule coming soon!



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 just as enthusiastic about the success of other 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 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.



Club Activities Info Needed

Clubs are encouraged to publish a bulletin weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly for the benefit of club members. If you so desire, please submit to the District Sun, Sand and Sage Editor, Dick Sears, so that information from your club can be included in the District newsletter. (Pictures are appreciated also.) Club newsletters will be recognized at the District Conferences each month. Send your newsletters to rsears519@aol.com or mail to: P.O. Box 370606, El Paso, TX 79937.



2015-16 Sun, Sand & Sage Printing Schedule

**October 15, 2015
New Year addition**

**December 1, 2015
1st Qtr. Conference addition**

**March 1, 2016
2nd Qtr. Conference addition**

**June 1, 2016
3rd Qtr. Conference addition**

**August 1, 2016
Int'l Convention addition**

**September 1, 2016
District Convention addition**