

Of
DREAMS
and
DEEDS

A
comprehensive history
of the birth,
growth and progress
of Optimist International



Introduction

First published in 1966, *Of Dreams and Deeds* is the history of Optimist International. The birth, growth, and progress of the organization are chronicled on these pages. This electronic version is the latest update, as of 2016, and contains material and photographs not included in the published book.

Chapter 1

Optimistic Beginnings

The First Optimist Club

The first recorded “optimist” club in the world was really a “non-pessimist” club. Sir Richard Steele, an Irish-born English playwright, wrote of his membership during the early 1700s in a club of ten to twelve businessmen who banished members if they showed sourness of disposition, spoke impatiently to servants or exhibited any trace of pessimism. The group was called the Good Humor Club.

The appearance of service clubs as we know them didn’t occur until the early part of the 20th century. After the widespread economic panic and depression of the early 1870s, there were marked advances in agriculture, industry and commerce. Keeping pace with these material improvements was a whole new pattern of thinking where social advances were concerned. As nations emerged from predominately agricultural societies, where individuals were primarily concerned with their own well-being, citizens began looking beyond their own self-interests. People began grouping together to combine their talents and energies to bring about change. Those who believed they could change things for the better called themselves optimists.

It’s unknown how many service clubs in North America before 1900 were called Optimist Clubs, although several are listed in rare old city directories and guides. In May of 1895, the Queen City Optimist Club was formed in Cincinnati, Ohio, by prominent civic leaders who wanted to work for the civic and cultural betterment of the city. Old records indicate this club was involved in city beautification programs, various welfare and charity projects, as well as pioneering attempts in the field of youth programs. But through the death of its old members and the lack of a continuous transfusion of new members, plus the gradual loss of club activity in civic projects, this Optimist Club declined and finally died. The last published mention of it was in 1902.

A newspaper item appearing in a Watsonville, California, paper dated July 12, 1904, announced that “The Optimists is the name adopted by an organization of young men members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this city.” The article mentions a constitution and bylaws being adopted and permanent organization being effected the day before. No trace of that club exists today.

On November 11, 1905, the 129 members of the Optimists Club of Chicago held their first annual banquet. The program lists no fewer than 14 speakers, plus the campaign remarks of six men who announced themselves as “candidates for the directorate.”

There is no historic chain of events that forms definite links between the first Optimist Clubs, organized just before and after 1900, and the first movement toward unification. The Optimist label was being used by several clubs whose members – representative business and professional men in urban communities – had banded together for their mutual benefit. There may have been some correspondence between individual members of the widely scattered clubs, but none of these clubs remained in existence long enough to become links in a national chain.

Early Attempts at Organization

In early 1911, a young insurance man from Buffalo, New York, E.L. Monser, dropped by the office of his friend, Charles Grein. Monser described an idea he had picked up from his travels “in the West” to organize a club of men from different businesses and professions and promote the old “you scratch my back and I’ll scratch yours” system.

Grein liked the idea and agreed to host a meeting in his office. On February 16, Monser and Grein met with O.L. Neal, a dealer in Victrolas and Indian motorcycles; Eugene Tanke, a jeweler; and J. Raymond Schwantz, a brewer. And so was born the Optimist Club of Buffalo. By April they had 25 more men interested in the club and elected their president, agreed upon the fundamental purposes and picked the time, place and regularity of their meetings.

And while they started off enthusiastically, things were rough at first. “There followed months of disappointment and delays,” one of the founders wrote in 1915. He added, however, “Since we had adopted the name of ‘Optimist’ nothing could come but success.”

By 1915 the Buffalo Optimists had conducted the first new club building efforts, with clubs formed in Syracuse and Rochester. These three clubs soon realized it was as difficult for clubs to operate independently as it was for men, and so they incorporated as The Optimist Clubs of New York State.

This was the first attempt at any unification of Optimist Clubs.

The Movement Grows

On a cold, rainy March day in 1916, Edwin Quarles entered the restaurant of the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis to join a handful of his fellow businessmen for their daily noon lunch and a bit of business gossip.

"I thought I was the only optimist in the bunch," Quarles is reported to have said as he wiped the rain from his face with his handkerchief. "As I splashed my way over here I made a bet with myself I'd be the only one to show up. But I guess we're all just naturally confirmed optimists."

That off-hand comment sparked a thought by Quarles: "Maybe we ought to make a real club out of this bunch. " Seems to me," he said, "what this world needs most on a day like this is an optimist club."

The idea was born and others around the table took up the idea of a club of optimists. Between discussions of the news headlines and the usual business talk the tenuous thread kept running in and out of the conversation. By the end of the meal it had stitched together most of the men there in a dream of a formal organization based on optimism.



Optimist headquarters in Indianapolis

In May of that year, 33 Indianapolis business and professional men sat down to appoint officers and draft a constitution. What is significant is that the organization was planned as a dual movement: a local club and a national governing body, The American Optimist Clubs, with headquarters in Indianapolis. It was truly an optimistic endeavor, for at that time the Indianapolis Optimists had never heard of the Optimists in New York or anywhere else for that matter. What they had planned was a professional team of club organizers to extend the scope of the organization beyond the city limits of Indianapolis.

Before the summer of 1916 was over, Optimist Clubs had been formed in Washington, D.C., St. Louis, Louisville and Springfield, Illinois. In September a club sprang up in Denver, and one in Milwaukee followed in October.

In the early summer of 1916, a Kansas City insurance man named Jack Schoen visited St. Louis. While there, a friend invited him to a luncheon meeting of the St. Louis Optimist Club. The experience was a rich one, and upon Schoen's return to Kansas City he contacted a young friend and suggested that they start an Optimist Club there. A week later seven men met for the first luncheon meeting of the Kansas City Optimist Club.

1917 saw clubs form in Los Angeles (March); St. Joseph, Missouri (October); and Kansas City, Kansas (December). Clubs also started that year in Baltimore, St. Paul and Peoria. A club was also in existence in Chicago, but there is no definitive record of whether it was the same one known to have existed ten years earlier.

Chapter 2

The Birth of an Organization

The Beginnings of a Formal Organization

As a part of the celebration of the Indianapolis club's first anniversary, representatives from all the other known clubs were invited to a conference in the Indiana city in May of 1917. On the 18th and 19th of that month delegates from 13 clubs—Indianapolis, Louisville, St. Louis, Milwaukee, Denver, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., Peoria, Minneapolis, Springfield, Baltimore and St. Paul—gathered, without authority to act on behalf of their respective clubs, to discuss the possibility of formalizing a national organization. Though not a convention in any sense of the word, the conference did generate a new feeling of unity and general awareness of the great potential in optimism. As one delegate wrote afterward, "Harmony was the keynote and every delegate seemed much impressed with the future of this new venture."

But it was not to be. The clouds of World War I were rolling over the United States and the hopes of organizing optimism were beginning to fade.

Optimism Gets Dealt a Heavy Blow

By the spring of 1917, the United States was mired in the First World War, and by autumn of 1918 all major industries had either converted to war work or were practically out of business. The cost of living had jumped 17 percent, sugar was being rationed and people were saying that what the war didn't get the influenza epidemic would. By November, and the Armistice, shortages were reported in everything from beans to baseball (the season had been cut short by order of the Secretary of War). Few Americans were thinking optimistically and fewer still were interested in joining a club of optimists.

The older clubs were becoming dissatisfied with the American Optimists Clubs, largely because of a group of professional organizers who had assumed control of the organization. Some clubs began to talk of secession from the national group and of forming their own organization. The members of the Kansas City club felt that the Optimist movement was a thing of such value that a new nationwide organization should be established. As a result, a non-profit corporation was formed known as the American Optimist Club and letters were sent to all known clubs asking them to join in a first convention.

Most clubs indicated their willingness to participate; however, the Indianapolis club suggested that the meeting be held there rather than in Kansas City since national headquarters had formerly been located there. All concurred in the merits of the suggestion and a conference of the disgruntled clubs was scheduled for March 1919 in Indianapolis.

This may have been the most crucial meeting of club delegates in the history of Optimism. That anyone would be able to get representatives from any dissatisfied group to journey across the country via train to discuss their peeves was in itself a major phenomenon and an exhibition of the fundamental spirit of optimism that infused those individuals.



Optimists gather at the first convention of Optimist International in June 1919.

The 11 clubs represented at this meeting nullified the secession notions, settled their differences and chose a new name for the organization: the International Optimist Club. Incorporation papers were filed with the Indiana Secretary of State and a temporary slate of national officers was appointed.

Delegates returned to their clubs with a revitalized spirit of Optimism. Above all, the seed that would later become Optimist International had been planted. A national convention, the first, was called for June 19 and 20 of that year, to be held in Louisville, Kentucky. Little did those dozen or so Optimists realize what their decision to meet again would lead to.

The Birth of an Organization

June 1919. World War I is over. Industry is setting new production records to overcome wartime shortages. The drab war years are making way for a bright philosophy of having fun as fast and furiously as possible. The “Roaring Twenties” loom on the horizon. It is a time of great hope—a time of optimism.

June 19th began as so many summer days do in Louisville, Kentucky—with the promise of sunny skies and the certainty of heat and humidity. It was the date set three months earlier at an informal conference of 13 Optimist Clubs for the beginning of the “first annual convention of the International Optimist Club.” The purpose was to organize optimism, to make it a unified force able to spread across the globe.

In Louisville that morning were representatives of 11 clubs, many accompanied by their spouses. William Henry Harrison, a Louisville businessman and ancestor of the ninth President of the United States, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. in a room on the second floor of the Tyler Hotel. He had been chosen president pro-tem at the March conference in Indianapolis because of the high regard everyone had for him.

“In those early days when faction was arrayed against faction on the floor,” one of the pioneering Optimists wrote, “Bill Harrison had the profound respect of everybody and his rulings were never appealed.”

That morning’s session got off to a rocky start. Many of the delegates were late for the opening gavel having been told the meeting was to be held on the ninth floor. Harrison apologized, saying the hotel had switched rooms at the last minute so they could prepare for the group’s banquet that evening.

Word then came that the Indianapolis contingent had not yet arrived. Harrison adjourned the session so that everyone could go down to the railroad station to greet the Indianapolis Optimists who were arriving in two special cars on the “Dixie Flyer,” accompanied by their own band.

By two o’clock that afternoon all 69 Optimists were finally gathered to take up the first major piece of business, the drawing up of a constitution. There were two club constitutions presented as models of what the international’s body should resemble. One was that of the Indianapolis club, the other of the Chicago group. In the end, the delegates arrived at a compromise and drew from the best features of each. This first constitution served the growing organization well as it operated under it without amendment for seven years.

International Dues

Among the items debated during that first convention was the amount of the annual dues. Originally, at the Indianapolis conference in March, four dollars had been proposed. Some, like E.L. Monser, one of the founders of the Optimist Club of Buffalo, New York, supported dues no higher than two dollars. “The Rotary Club has a per capita tax (dues) of 50 cents per head,” he told the assembled Optimists. ;“No club of a similar nature that I know of has a per capita tax as high as two dollars.”

Others, like J.M. Schmid of Indianapolis, questioned whether two dollars would be enough to maintain the secretary’s office and the expenses of the organization for the first year. “After this organization begins to grow and adds members and clubs,” he said, “perhaps two dollars or less will be sufficient, but I am inclined to think that the first year we ought to provide sufficient (dues) so we could see our way clear until the next convention.”

Monser countered. “We have got to have a national treasury and the quicker we can have the means of paying a man to attend to our national affairs, the better for the Optimists.”

After considerable debate the first international dues were set at two dollars per member, payable at one dollar semi-annually.

The First International Office Operation is Created

After assuring that there would be sufficient funds to run the fledgling organization, the governing board chose Dr. Harry G. Hill of Indianapolis as the first secretary, a position that would later evolve into today's executive director position. Since the heaviest share of the burden in new club building, public relations and coordination of efforts by the individual clubs fell upon the shoulders of the secretary, it seemed logical to name Indianapolis as the headquarters city for the young organization. Dr. Hill would return to that city and for the next three years administer the affairs of the organization out of one drawer of his desk, first at his home and then at his office in the Indiana College of Music and Fine Arts.

Other Firsts

In addition to debating dues, there were two other main points of contention at the meeting on June 19 and 20. One was how the United States would be divided into districts, which led to the second, which was the method of operation in those districts regarding the organizing of new clubs. Even then Optimists were coveting prime new club building locations. But once again harmony prevailed, differences were settled, compromises were reached and the first district governors (who also sat on the international governing board) were appointed.

Even in 1919, the Optimists saw the need for some form of regular communication among all members. One delegate rose to request the governing board publish a monthly bulletin. Within the next year, the first issue of The Optimist magazine would be distributed; a magazine that has been published continuously ever since.

Before adjourning, a unanimous vote was cast electing Bill Harrison as the first International President.

The first international convention drew to a close on the evening of June 20 when the 97 men, women and one young boy boarded private automobiles and drove to a public park for dinner. Before dining they assembled on a grassy knoll; the men removed their straw hats, the women straightened their summer dresses, six banners proclaiming "Optimists Club" were unfurled and a photographer from the Royal Photo Company in Louisville snapped their picture. Little did those 97 people realize that their image, caught for an instant on that sultry June evening, would be viewed with interest and pride for many decades by hundreds of thousands of men and women who owe a debt of gratitude to those visionary Optimists.

Chapter 3

The 1920s

Dreams of Greatness

By the summer of 1920, and the first anniversary of the founding of the International Optimist Club, the original 11 Optimist Clubs had grown to 17, with more than 3,000 men listed as members. At the second convention, held in St. Louis, delegates re-elected William Henry Harrison to the presidency, the only person in the organization's history to serve two terms as president. Harrison was the assistant superintendent of agencies for a large life insurance company and as part of his duties he traveled throughout the U.S. as an agency inspector. These trips on company business frequently took him to the widely scattered cities where Optimist Clubs existed. This allowed him to visit the clubs without cost to him or the fledgling organization, which in those early years struggled to find money in its treasury for postage stamps much less travel for its president.

At the third convention in Springfield, Illinois, a real estate developer from St. Louis, Cyrus Crane Willmore, was elected president. During the 1921-22 year, Willmore traveled all over the United States at his own expense, strengthening and inspiring existing clubs and creating new clubs at the then-phenomenal rate of almost two a month.

At the end of his term as president of the International Optimist Club, Willmore delivered a convention address in which he laid out his dream of a great service organization "based on positive living and an affirmative philosophy." Willmore used that optimistic philosophy in his professional life after serving as president as he became a millionaire within the next few years only to see it wiped away in the Great Depression. Calling on his "affirmative philosophy," he later made another million before he died.

The Optimist Magazine

From its inception, the lines of communication between clubs and individual members were strengthened by The Optimist magazine. The first edition was published in October 1920. Each of the 27 clubs in existence was requested to appoint a "scribe" to report in at least once a month with news of his club, suggestions for the entire organization and optimistic thoughts about things in general.

On the front cover of some of those early issues appears a moon-shaped, smiling face. This beaming countenance had been suggested by a St. Louis Optimist as the official emblem of the International Optimist Club and it was so voted by the executive committee in August 1922. Along with the smiling face there appeared another symbol with the sun in its center and the words "Friendship, Sociability, Loyalty, Reciprocity" around it as a border.

The Optimist magazine is today one of the longest continually published magazines in North America, with issues published and sent to every Optimist Club member from that 1920 first edition to the present.

The Optimist Creed

Once organized, Optimists began looking for a motto, a slogan or a creed they could live by. Many were suggested; none were quite what was wanted and needed.

In Los Angeles, soon after the end of World War I, the wife of James V. Westervelt, the club bulletin editor of the Optimist Club of Los Angeles, found a small item on optimism in a local newspaper and gave it to him thinking he might be able to use it. Westervelt reprinted it in the club's 1919 yearbook under the title "Promise Yourself." As the original newspaper article did not identify the author, Westervelt labeled it simply as "Selected." It contained ten resolutions or promises a person could make to himself and that, if they were kept, would give them guidance throughout their life. Members of the club copied it, and a couple of years later when they journeyed north to recruit new Optimists and build new clubs in San Francisco and Oakland they took it with them. In this short document, they felt, could be found all that Optimism is and Optimists should be.



James V. Westervelt

With so many California Optimists familiar with the piece, it was inevitable that someone would send it to The Optimist magazine, where it appeared in the December 1921 issue. When the next convention was called to order in Kansas City in 1922, nearly every delegate present had a copy of "Promise Yourself" in his pocket. Hundreds of copies had been brought and distributed by Optimists from San Francisco and Oakland. Still without knowing the author, the convention adopted it as The Optimist Creed. Beginning with the August 1922 convention issue, the Creed became a regular feature of The Optimist magazine.



The Optimist, December 1921

Jim Westervelt, however, was curious about who the author was. After a little literary detective work he found that "Promise Yourself" first appeared in 1912 in a book titled *Your Forces and How to Use Them* by Christian D. Larson. Its theme was simply "you can do anything you want to do if you only set your heart and mind to it." It was a small volume of high inspiration and philosophy, one of many like it that began appearing on the market shortly after the turn of the century. All were outgrowths of the "Transcendentalists" of the day, like Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Thoreau and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Larson, who wrote 39 other books in his lifetime and gave more than 5,000 lectures, began his career in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1898 lecturing in public halls, private homes and surrounding towns. His teachings led to the founding of the New Thought Temple of Cincinnati, which became one of the largest and most successful and influential institutions of its type.

Larson was also the founder of—and for 25 years the editor of and chief contributor to—a monthly publication called first *Eternal Progress* and later *New Progress*. At one time, its circulation reached 150,000 with subscribers in every English-speaking country in the world.

At every international convention from 1922 until Larson's death in 1962, delegates telegraphed greetings and reaffirmed their appreciation of their creed to its author.

The Organization Becomes Truly International

As the months rolled by through 1921 and 1922, Optimism spread in all directions until by 1923 there were 59 clubs with 4,500 members. And though the years ahead looked even more promising, there was one door that had not yet been opened, one avenue of progress that had not yet been entered.

From its birth at the Louisville convention the organization had been international in name only. But no one knew how and when it would become truly international. And then, out of the blue, during the latter part of 1923 the answer came in the form of a telegram to the Optimist office from a young man in Toronto, Ontario. William M. Skilling, known as "Bill," was a wounded Canadian Army veteran of World War I who returned to his country in 1920 with a war disability and in such wretched health that he had difficulty finding a job. Having hit bottom in the morale department, Skilling happened to hear of a club of men called "Optimists" while visiting in the United States. His telegram to the Optimist office sought to receive permission to start a club in Toronto.

On December 21, 1923, Bill Skilling and two friends, Dr. Ben Stephenson and C.S. Dawes, began organizing the first Canadian Optimist Club. On the night of February 26, 1924, at a banquet in the ballroom of the Prince George Hotel, the "club that made Optimist International international" received its charter from the president of Optimist International, James W. Chilton. Also present were the president and secretary of the nearest club, the Optimist Club of Buffalo, New York.

Four months later, on June 4, 1924, the second Canadian Optimist Club was chartered, in Hamilton, Ontario, about 40 miles west of Toronto. It had been built by Bill Skilling, who had been named the first Canadian field secretary.

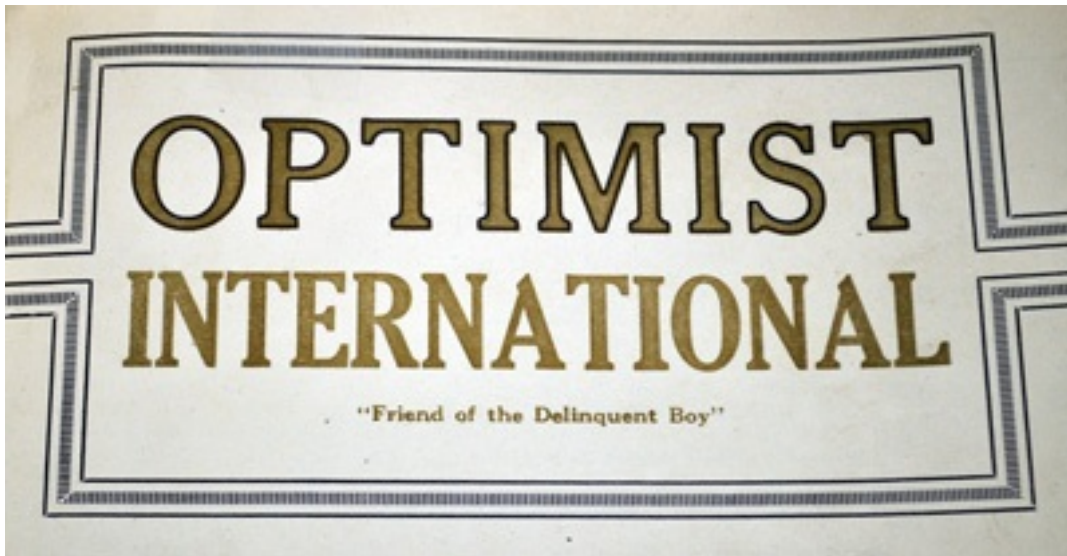


Just four months after becoming truly international, Optimist International welcomes its second Canadian Club -- the Optimist Club of Hamilton, Ontario.

Early Optimist Youth Work Early records indicate the first Optimist Clubs soon became interested in helping the boys of their communities. They show that it was not long after men began assembling as Optimists before the altruism of this basic philosophy led them away from their interest in helping each other through business reciprocity and into the desire to help someone else.

By the time of the first convention in Louisville in 1919, nearly every Club was reporting some activity in the field of what was then called "boys work." There was talk then of encouraging all Clubs to do likewise, but no concrete program or procedure or even a slogan was suggested to the delegates. Even so,

many Optimists and individual Clubs were already involved in the then-popular Big Brother movement, an association designed to work with juvenile delinquents. Because of this work by many Optimists, it was quite natural that some began to think of themselves as “Friend of the Delinquent Boy.”



At the 1922 International Convention in Kansas City, Dr. Charles W. Hartloff, charter president of the new Optimist Club in Evansville, Indiana, a medical examiner and past president of the Big Brother movement, urged that “our Optimist organization accept the responsibility of helping the boy to help himself, not by imposing charity upon him, but by being a big brother to the boy, by setting an example for him, by giving him the right kind of advice, by seeing that he goes to Sunday School and by helping him secure the right kind of employment.”



One of the first youth activities sponsored by the Optimist Club of Toronto was this harmonica band of the Jarvis Street Auxiliary School. The principal of the school was William J. Tamblin, center rear, who became President of Optimist International.

It was the doctor's theory that the greatest service an Optimist could perform for a boy was to convince him that Optimists are sincere in their efforts to help boys help themselves. Response to the challenge from Dr. Hartloff was enthusiastic. In the months that followed, word came from throughout the organization that Clubs were doing more than merely talking about the problem over their luncheon coffee.

By the time of the fifth convention in Chattanooga in 1923, when the organization's name was changed to Optimist International, the business of boys work was an item of prime importance on the slate of many Optimist Clubs in the land. Jay C. Goodrich, then International Field Secretary, told the convention: "We shall strive to make the Optimist Club known to the world as the 'Friend of the Delinquent Boy.'" Delegates then officially adopted the organization's first slogan. It appeared on the front cover of the July 1923 Optimist magazine for the first time.

Later that year, the Optimist Club of Cleveland, Ohio, requested that the International Board of Directors give "most serious attention to the question of selecting certain objectives which the local clubs may advance. That the affording of increased educational opportunities to the boys of any community ... would be a work upon which the Optimist Clubs might well concentrate their efforts."

In preparing for the 1924 convention that they would host, Optimists from the Milwaukee Club wrote to the International Office to ask if there had been created a definite program that local clubs could follow in carrying out the work with young delinquents.

The still young and inexperienced Optimist International officials of 1924 could only reply that the organization had no definite plan to recommend and that the only advice they could give was to "tackle the problem along general lines." They suggested that local Optimist Clubs cooperate with the Big Brother movement and other such organizations already set up for the purpose.

But the Milwaukee Optimists weren't satisfied. When the convention convened that summer they presented a plan in the form of a resolution. First of all, they felt the word "delinquent" in the Optimist slogan was poor psychology. And while much of the work being done was among boys with records in juvenile court there were still many hundreds of other boys brought into the program who by any stretch of the imagination could not be classified as delinquents. Their resolution also asked that Optimist Clubs secure a pledge from their members to devote several hours a week to one or more boys during the year following the signing of the pledge.

Following the convention, during which the organization's official slogan was changed to "Friend of the Boy," the executive committee of Optimist International began to develop a plan for financing the salary of an expert in boys work "who shall have charge of further developing and carrying on boys work by Optimist International." The thinking was that if this "Friend of the Boy" business was to get off the ground someone was going to have to direct it.



Questionnaires were prepared and mailed to all Clubs, asking what kinds of boys work they were trying to do, how successful they had been and if they had any ideas for the international planning. Some were returned with sketchy information. Others answered by saying they were pretty confused about the whole thing. Still others registered surprise. They didn't even know they were supposed to be doing boys work. Many Clubs didn't respond at all.

When Optimists gathered in Houston for their seventh convention, the boys work picture was a dim one.

With what little information he had collected, Boys Work Chairman Leo F. Nohl reported that, in essence, it was a mess and what was needed was someone who knows his business to get it into shape. He recommended a member of the Milwaukee Optimist Club, Bert Hall. Hall established a systematic method of assembling vital information and of organizing that information into simple and orderly reports that could in turn be of great value to all Clubs. Hall is credited with laying the foundation for all of the youth-serving programs that would be done by Optimist Clubs over the next 90 years.

By 1927, Optimists were hard at work in many programs for their friend, the boy. In general, the problems of youth in one city were about like those in any other. But each community had its own solution, its own best way to find the answer. Consequently, a Boys Work Council was established that year to incorporate the best features of various boys work proposals and establish some broad lines of policy by which Optimist Clubs could cooperate with various civic institutions.

The Council came to the 1928 convention with a program to recommend: Optimist Clubs should continue their efforts in the Optimist Uncle plan (by which an individual Optimist becomes advisor, helper and friend of a boy referred to him by the juvenile courts) and in the Junior Optimist Club program which had blossomed just a few years earlier.

Optimist boys work programs were booming and the leaders of the organization felt it was time to provide them with the finances needed to grow. The delegates at that 1928 convention instructed the Board of Directors to set aside 25 cents of every Optimist's dues and use that fund for boys work on the International level exclusively.

The First Youth Clubs

A few days after school started in Milwaukee in 1920, Henry Scarborough, a member of the Optimist Club of that city, received a phone call from the local YMCA secretary.

"Henry," he said, "we've got a project going here and we need your help."

The project was a "Find Yourself" campaign for the boys of Milwaukee, both "Y" boys and non-members. The object was to help the boys discover their aptitudes and make the right choice of vocation for which they could prepare.

For several weekends Scarborough served as interviewer and counselor in the "Find Yourself" campaign. And from those sessions came a permanent organization of boys who had found an understanding friend and a wise counselor. They wanted to remain together as a group and they wanted his Optimist Club to stay with them.

Scarborough agreed to serve their boy-type club as sponsor. When a proper name for the club came up for discussion, the boys had a logical choice.

"Mr. Scarborough, you're a member of an Optimist Club for men. Would it be OK if we called ours the Junior Optimist Club?"

The original Junior Optimist Club adopted a constitution, worked out its bylaws and objectives and began to meet regularly. When summer came again the young members were brought even closer together by picnics, parties and camping trips. Like their elders before them, however, they weren't long in coming to realize that the richest rewards from such an organization come from helping others as well as themselves. They went to work for poor families, they lent the "Y" an energetic hand in its membership, finance and other campaigns.

And four years later, in 1924, when Optimist International convened in Milwaukee, that first Junior Optimist Club was the hit of the convention. Inspired by the enthusiasm of those youngsters, the delegates voted the right of Optimist International to charter Junior Optimist Clubs everywhere. The only provision was that each Junior Club must be under the supervision of a senior Club and under the direct leadership of a member of that senior Club.



With the 1924 Convention approaching, Optimists were encouraged to "keep your eyes on Milwaukee."

The idea spread like wildfire across Optimism. It did not exactly stagnate in the city of Milwaukee either, for Junior Optimism grew from that first Club of a handful of boys to a peak of 42 Clubs and several hundred members in the years immediately prior to World War II.

Milwaukee, however, was not the only city in which Junior Optimism had begun to flourish even before the 1924 convention there and the decision to grant charters from Optimist International. In 1922, in St. Louis, an Optimist named Tom Elliott who, incidentally, would later become the first Executive Director of the organization, pioneered a similar trail. He was familiar with the tough neighborhoods of St. Louis and the boys who lived there, many of them facing a future of homelessness and crime. He decided to try and get a few of them together and organize a small club of some kind.

Only five boys showed up at the appointed time and place for the first meeting, but before long the group had grown into a club of 30 to 40 members. When Elliott proposed they come up with a name he found that the matter had already been settled. They told him they were already calling it an Optimist Club. Elliott was flattered but explained that it might be confusing and suggested they tack on the word "Junior" on the front of their Club name.

Within six weeks after the Milwaukee convention, the St. Louis Junior Optimist Club had met the requirements and applied for its charter. It was the first to be received and the charter was granted on August 5, 1924. It was Charter No. 1.

Two other Clubs applied for charters before the year was out and then, on January 10, 1925, came the application from the oldest Junior Optimist Club, the one Henry Scarborough had started in Milwaukee five years earlier. For a few months it operated under Charter No. 4, but at a meeting of the International Executive Committee this was changed. In recognition of its claim as the original Junior Optimist Club its charter was re-issued as No. 1-A.

The First Optimist Oratorical Contest

By 1928, Optimists were getting down to business in the matter of boys work. Junior Optimist Clubs were sprouting up all over and the organization had set aside 25 cents of every Optimist's dues to fund boys work exclusively on the International level.

In the May 1928 issue of The Optimist magazine, the newly appointed Boys Work Council announced that they had come up with "an innovation of unprecedented interest," an oratorical contest open to all Junior Optimists 16 and younger. Each boy could choose his own subject, so long as it pertained to Optimism and boys work, prepare his own oration and limit it to ten minutes. All Optimist Clubs that wanted to have their Junior Optimist Clubs represented at the International Convention that summer of 1928 were invited to file their intention. All entrants were to be given the opportunity to address and compete for one of three prizes and certificates to be presented. The announcement stated that the nature of the prizes had not been determined.

Records of the convention do not indicate how many boys took to the speaker's platform that June day in 1928 in Asheville, North Carolina. They do state, however, that the first Oratorical Contest winner was 12-year-old Carlo Purpero from Milwaukee. His prize turned out to be a book, *The Americanization of Edward Bok*. Three runners-up, each of whom received a certificate, a loving cup and a book, were

Ramson Park of Nashville, James Cherry of Asheville and Elbert Parish of Oklahoma City.

Carlo had selected for his oration, "What Junior Optimism Means to Me." He told delegates he was proud of his state, his home city and his nation, but he was even more proud to be a member of Junior Optimist Club No. 12 of Milwaukee.

"The club to which I belong," he said, "is composed exclusively of Italian boys living in a district which is known as Milwaukee's 'Little Italy.' The ward is surrounded by the local gas works, garbage plant, railroad yards, numerous warehouses and the commission row. Some call it the slum district. For years our only playgrounds were the streets or alleys of the neighborhood where we mingled with the pushcarts of banana peddlers and played with the goats which infested our district.

"Some of the bolder of us, for diversion, hitched rides on freight cars while we explored the nearby freight yards for fuel and provisions. That state of affairs has undergone a complete change since the inception of our Junior Optimist Club."

Young Carlo went on to tell them that this gang of kids, many of them on probation to Juvenile Court and none of them candidates for National Honor Society at school, had within the past two years become a club complete with a constitution, bylaws, officers and meetings. Their year-long program of contests in oratory and athletics was climaxed by a two-week camping trip.

He concluded his oration by thanking the Optimists for the change they had made in the lives of himself and his contemporaries and added, "We want to grow up so that in the years to come we may be a credit to our benefactors and make them realize they have done something for the benefit of American boyhood."

Delegates to the convention were inspired by this new program and directed that rules for future contests be drawn up. Foreseeing that the next year would bring too many boy orators to be heard, they ordered contests set up within Districts with the winner of each representing his District at the 11th annual convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1929.

And true to his words that he wanted to grow up and "be a credit to his benefactors," Carlo Purpero completed high school and was three years into a pre-law course at Milwaukee State Teachers College when his mother died, forcing him to forego his plans to be a lawyer. Shortly afterward, however, an elderly couple sold Carlo their little restaurant and he was off on a new career as a restaurateur, eventually opening a popular chain of drive-in restaurants in California.

An Optimistic Beginning

From 11 Clubs at its founding just a decade earlier, the number of Optimist Clubs grew tenfold by the end of the 1920s. The 1,300 men who belonged to the few founding Clubs in 1919 had become over 8,000 late in the decade.

In 1926, the presidents of Optimist International and Civitan International began serious discussions about merging the two organizations. A special conference between the two chief executives and the two executive secretaries was held in Columbus, Ohio, where five resolutions were adopted calling for the consolidation of the two organizations and outlining how such a merger would be handled. International Convention delegates from both organizations were to vote on the proposal during their meetings in the summer of 1926. No records exist of how the votes went, whether one or both conventions rejected the proposal, but obviously the merger never took place.

At the 1929 International Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Optimist International did merge with Canopus International, a struggling organization of fewer than a dozen clubs but with the same general purpose.

Chapter 4

The 1930s

Optimism and the Great Depression

By the time of its 10th anniversary, Optimist International was beginning to experience the growing pains of an organization expanding over the land faster than its succeeding administrations could keep up with it. From a few enthusiastic Clubs functioning in a few far-flung cities, the organization had grown to 117 Clubs in its first decade, with more than 8,000 members in the United States and Canada.

And while Optimism was high at that summer of 1929 meeting, dark clouds were looming in the world that would put heavy pressure on the fledgling organization's efforts to survive. On October 29, 1929, the U.S. stock market crashed. The Great Depression was on.

Hardly on its feet, Optimism now faced its greatest challenge. Never were its philosophies so sorely needed; never before had the opportunity to serve been so great. With each passing month the need for someone, some organization, to indeed be a "Friend of the Boy" became more and more acute.



During the years of the Great Depression, Optimist International's role as "Friend of the Boy" was needed more than ever before.

Many Optimists themselves were caught up in the swirling tide and, unable to maintain their own incomes, were forced to withdraw from their Optimist Clubs. Membership rosters across the land began to dwindle. The International program suffered in turn as revenues from dues diminished. More money was needed in the International treasury to meet its obligations and to take up the slack caused by certain Clubs that were having a tough time, too, and were falling behind their dues.

Things didn't improve over the next few years. In fact, at a meeting of the Executive Committee of Optimist International, 1933-34 International President V. Ernest Field reported an emergency within the organization, a crisis comparable to that of the United States government itself.

“Losses in numbers and in morale, due to the time,” he said, “are so heavy that if continued can mean the end of Optimist International.”

To counteract this, he proposed a plan of progress built on fellowship, reciprocity, membership, boys work and new Clubs.

“Our objective,” Field declared, “must be a net gain of 1,500 members in Clubs and 150 new Clubs!”

The old concept of reciprocity—“I’ll scratch your back if you scratch mine”—had served the organization well in its early years but had gradually been replaced with a sense of mission to perform boys work. However, on hearing Field’s plan, most Optimists declared that they would be willing to go back to the old precept of reciprocity if it would gain new members and retain the old ones. They did so with some misgivings, however, for the old timers among them cautioned of a lesson once learned, that men who became Optimists primarily to get business from their fellow Club members, and who subsequently failed to get the business they had anticipated, soon resigned, let their membership lapse or at least became inactive.



In the early 1930s, Clubs were encouraged to cooperate in a publicity program by placing signs along roads that led to their cities.

Therefore, at the 1935 convention in St. Louis, Optimists agreed as a matter of policy that business reciprocity among members was normally the natural result from close contact and friendship among those who worked together for others, and that too much emphasis on it for purposes of gaining members or in new Club building could be harmful.

Concern was also noted that an ambitious boys work program might throw too great a responsibility on already financially embarrassed Club members and that elaborate and expensive programs for boys were creating a burden beyond what could be called reasonable during a financial crisis.

And while 16 new Clubs had been established during the 1933-34 year—built by professional organizers – the funds of Optimist International were running low. Several members, most of whom had been active from the start of the organization, signed a note together for sufficient funds to operate for the balance of the year.

Shortly before the 18th annual convention in Fort Worth in 1936, Immediate Past International President Henry Schaffert approached International President Walter J. Pray with a plan to help raise funds to keep the organization going. He admitted that the plan wasn't original with him because he had seen it work with other organizations and several country clubs.

Pray agreed with the proposal and allowed Schaffert to address the delegates.

"I propose a new classification of membership in Optimism ... Life Membership," Schaffert said. "The Life Membership is unusual in that Optimist International will get some ready cash with which to work and will not have to pay it back.

"Several members have offered to lend money to International to put over an extension program, but this would mean Optimism would assume an obligation which must be repaid.

"A Life Membership is not something we expect every member to take. We are only going to ask those members to take it who want it.

"The plan is to sell a Life Membership for \$100 cash—or a down payment of one-third and two payments each six months thereafter.

"The officers who will have the duty and privilege of administering these monies so received are men of sufficient caliber, honesty and sincerity that they will guard that money even more so than if it were their own.

"I want to tell you that I stayed up nights until two or three o'clock in the morning, trying to figure out a way to build clubs without money. It is just impossible to get enough of the type of men whom we need to go out and build clubs, without some assurance they are going to be able to eat and sleep while they are on the road. We need money to give these men something to live on!"

The proposal, and its acceptance by the delegates, marked a milestone in the short history of Optimist International. It was a simple, easily understood plan: Those Optimists who wished to do so could, for \$100, pay their International dues for the rest of their lives. The dues they paid thenceforth to their local Clubs would be reduced to the extent of the International dues. Money paid for Life Memberships would be used exclusively for the building of new Clubs.

No sooner had Schaffert finished speaking than A.S. Hull of Austin, Texas, leapt to his feet and declared, "I will buy Life Membership number one."

A split second behind him was John F. Tyrell of Milwaukee. "I want Life Membership number one and I'll raise you \$50 for it!"

Hull responded, "I will step aside in favor of a great Optimist because I have been in Optimism only one year."

President Walter Pray thanked the comparative newcomer and accepted the switch. Life Membership number one went to Tyrell, number two to Hull.

Pray started to say he'd take number three but Thomas O'Keefe of Detroit (who became International President three years later) beat him to the punch. Walter Hoffman of Vernon, Texas, spoke up for number four and the President, exercising his prerogative, rapped for order and suspended the bidding until he could get his own name in the pot as Life Member number five.

A steady stream of Optimists was recognized by the presiding officer until 100 Life Memberships had been taken and \$10,000 had been pledged to Optimist International for new Club building.

Results of the new expansion program were not long in arriving. During the following month, July 1936, The Optimist magazine reported that a new record had been set for chartering new Clubs in one month ... four, in Columbia, Missouri; Norfolk, Virginia; Jacksonville, Florida; and Hutchinson, Kansas.



During the week that the Tacoma, Washington, Optimist Club was chartered, "Welcome Optimist" signs popped up on street cars and in the front windows of businesses throughout the city. The Tacoma mayor also declared March 7, the day of the charter, as "Optimist Day."

Total membership had risen from 5,540 three years earlier to 7,020 in July 1936. And there were now 105 Junior Optimist Clubs with 3,099 members.

By now, Optimism had passed the low point in its battle against the Great Depression. Membership had dipped to a low of 4,575 in October 1933, but the grim days were apparently behind them. In 1936-37, the organization boasted the greatest net membership increase of any year in its history.

As the decade of the 1930s ended, membership in Optimist International had climbed to 11,129, or more than twice what it had been just six years earlier, in 1934. Optimism was again high among those who had weathered the storm, but new clouds were forming on the horizon that would present even greater challenges as the calendar turned over to 1940.

Chapter 5

The 1940s

On September 1, 1939, Nazi Germany marched into Poland. Two days later Great Britain and France declared war on Germany. A week later, on September 10, Canada entered into the war. The surprise attack by Japan on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, forced the United States into the global war.

In both Canada and the United States all efforts turned to the all-out war pursuit. Civilians turned full attention and devoted every effort to production of materials for war.

There was some sentiment at the time that all service clubs should be disbanded for the duration of the war. Of course, Optimist Clubs in both the U.S. and Canada had been quick to pledge their support to their governments and to promise manpower necessary for all community wartime projects.



Clubs collect towers of rubber tires during the war.



Junior Optimist boys help with the cause.

One of the most necessary of those projects was the collection of scrap metal to make up for the normal peacetime supplies that would soon be exhausted in the all-out manufacture of arms and munitions. The U.S. called upon its citizens to salvage 17 million tons of scrap metal.

Optimist International immediately sent instructions to all Clubs on how to organize, publicize and conduct such a campaign in their respective communities. Following the first such campaign, it was learned that an average of 25 Optimists per Club had worked to collect scrap metal, and that more than 250 Clubs had produced an average of 12 1/2 tons of vital material. Optimist International received a special citation from the War Production Board for its achievements in collecting thousands of tons of sorely needed scrap metal and rubber.

Optimists' concerted effort in this and many subsequent home front campaigns during World War II is considered by many as the organization's highest achievement.

In Canada there was growing concern over the needs of children living overseas where the fighting was. Out of this concern arose a project that spread across the nation, appealing to hundreds of thousands of Canadians. Originating with the Optimist Club of Welland, Ontario, it was based on the conviction that children were entitled to a few little luxuries just because they are children and that the war had deprived them of these as well as many of life's necessities.

With the Optimists leading the way, the Chocolate Fund was established to pack and deliver to British children, through the British Food Ministry, the schools and the Red Cross, more than two million bars of chocolate. For thousands of youngsters this was the only sweet they knew during ten years of war.



British children show off their chocolate, courtesy of Optimists overseas.



The Chocolate Fund sent more than 2 million bars of chocolate to children.

The value of Optimist International to the war effort was proved in many other ways time and again. Millions of dollars were raised in Optimist-sponsored bond drives. More than 1,600 Life Memberships were purchased with \$100 war bonds. Servicemen's centers at home were provided and staffed by Optimists. Untold thousands of servicemen overseas received letters and gifts from the Optimist Clubs in their hometowns.

By the end of the war nearly 2,000 Optimists were in uniforms of the Canadian and United States militaries. Nearly 1 out of every 7 members served their country during this time.

Along with every other organization, Optimist International found its efforts to grow severely restricted by the war. Its field staff resigned in 1942 to enter military service and new Club building came to an abrupt standstill. Fewer than a dozen new Clubs were chartered during the war years. Surprisingly, however, total membership actually increased during this period, from 13,000 in 1941 to 16,000 in 1945. The wartime service efforts of Optimist Clubs attracted many who could not serve their countries in the military but felt they were contributing by getting involved in an organized effort on the home front.

During the years of World War II there were no international conventions because of travel restrictions and the need for every Optimist to remain on the job until the war was won. Conferences were held instead to carry on the administrative work of the organization. The training of incoming Club and District officers became, for the first time, the responsibility of the District Governors.

At the 1942 Wartime Conference reports were received that despite the huge efforts of Clubs to contribute to the war effort boys work had not suffered. In fact, the average amount of time and money per Club devoted to youth service had increased throughout the organization.

Although the curtailment of normal activities had resulted in Optimist International being in the best financial condition in its history, it faced the baffling problem of membership turnover. The average Club was experiencing a turnover of around 25 percent, nearly twice that of normal times, due in part to the unsettled conditions of nations at war.

To meet this problem, Optimist International established a goal of 500 Life Memberships to provide for the postwar building of new Clubs. By 1944, nearly 600 had been sold and the organization was ensured a sound financial structure upon which to build when the war came to an end.



More than 1,600 Optimists purchased Life Memberships with \$100 bonds.

Chapter 6

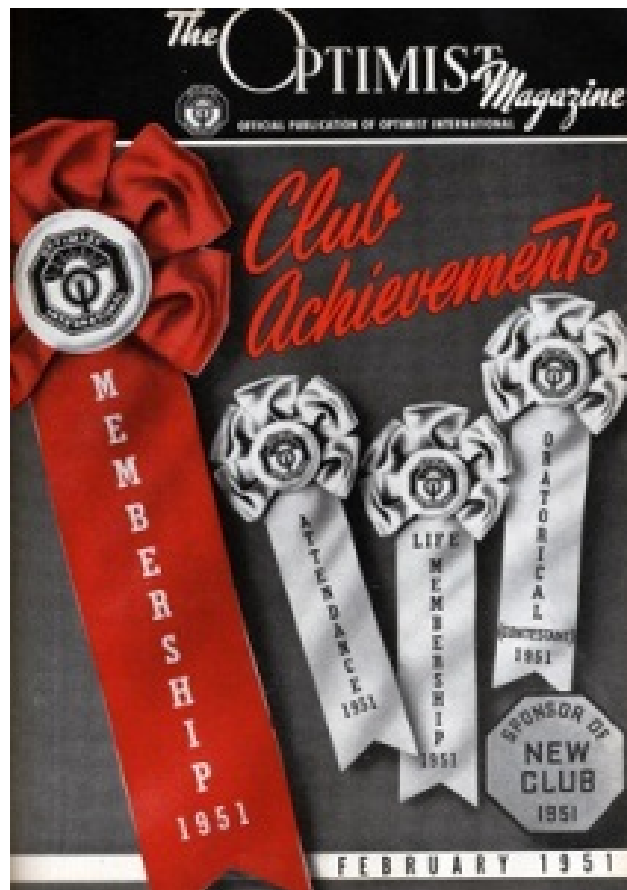
The 1950s

As Optimists returned from serving their country in World War II and exchanged uniforms for civilian clothes, Clubs turned from wartime projects to their own campaigns of enlarging and strengthening their organization by recruiting new members. From 1950 to 1960, Optimism spread at a rate never before seen in its history. While 700 Clubs and just over 38,000 members started the decade, the ten-year period ended with 1,871 Clubs consisting of over 73,000 members.

Two significant creations occurred during the 1950s: club sponsorship of new Clubs and the awards program.

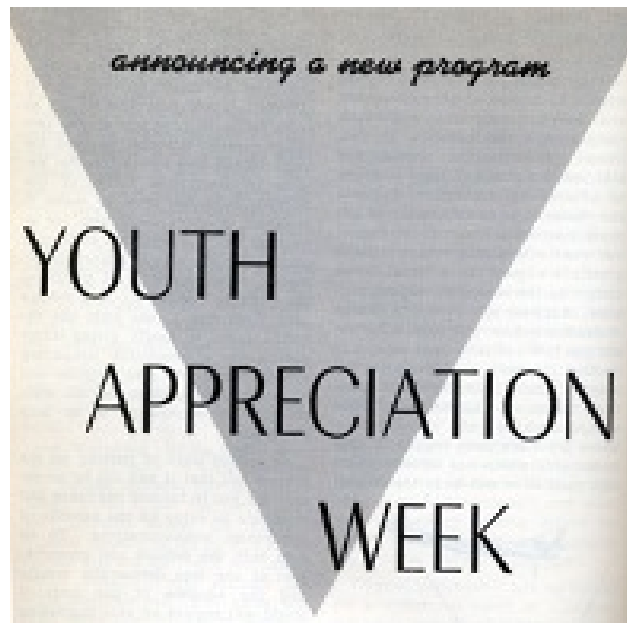
The club sponsorship program in 1950, in which Optimists went out and built new Clubs themselves rather than leaving this work in the hands of paid organizers, transformed the organization. The building of nearly 1,200 Clubs during the first decade of this program nearly doubled what the paid field staff had been able to do in the first 30 years.

The creation of what was originally known as the “Achievement and Awards Program” during the 1950-51 year helped recognize those individuals, Clubs, Zones and Districts for their efforts in growing the organization. While there was nothing revolutionary in the recognition of effort, the program did provide a new level of excellence toward which Optimists could work and a system by which they could measure their accomplishments.



As the 1950s begin, so does the awards program.

Youth Appreciation Week



The creation of Youth Appreciation Week is reason to celebrate for Optimists and youth everywhere.

On a bitter cold winter night in 1955 near the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina, Optimist T. Earl Yarborough and his wife were driving back home to Charlotte after assisting in the organization of a Junior Optimist Club in Morganton. Under normal conditions the drive would have required less than two hours. That night, however, an icy glaze stretched their trip to five hours and the Yarboroughs had ample time to talk and to reflect on the incidents of the evening.

“It beats me,” said Earl. “On a night like this every one of those kids showed up for the meeting. Some of them had to walk several miles, I understand. They must be pretty good kids to be so enthusiastic over their new Junior Optimist Club.”

Then, almost as an afterthought, he added, “I wonder what the morning papers will have to say about this. Nothing, in all probability, for it’s really not great news. If those boys had been arrested for swiping hubcaps or cutting tires or something though, there would have been a story about that.”

It was a shame, the Yarboroughs agreed, that so much public attention is paid to teenagers who go wrong and so little to those who stay right. By the time he reached his home, Yarborough had the conviction that Optimists should and could do something about it. He armed himself with statistics on juvenile delinquency and on juvenile decency. He solicited the aid of two fellow Optimists, Harold Smoak and a Charlotte newspaperman, Kays Gary. He carried his idea for a Youth Appreciation Day to his own Optimist Club and to the North Carolina statehouse, where the governor of the state gave his enthusiastic endorsement. On May 22, 1955, North Carolina observed the first Youth Appreciation Day.

The following year Optimist International scheduled a Youth Appreciation Week program on a pilot basis in five states and one Canadian province. Acceptance of the program and eager participation in it were reported from every trial area.

In the autumn of 1957, Optimist International launched its first organization-wide program that had as its sole purpose the “recognition, commendation and encouragement of the 95 percent of all teenagers whose feet are firmly planted on the right track and from whose midst will come the adult leaders of tomorrow’s world.” More than a thousand Optimist Clubs held Youth Appreciation Week programs that first year. The number increased steadily and the program continues to be the most popular of all of Optimist International’s programs.

Youth Appreciation Week hit its high water mark in 1971 when the United States Congress by joint resolution passed Public Law 92-43. It designated the week beginning the following November 8 as Youth Appreciation Week. On November 5, 1971, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, D.C., U.S. President Richard M. Nixon signed the first Youth Appreciation Week proclamation in the presence of Immediate Past International President Charles C. Campbell, Optimist T. Earl Yarborough, sponsors of the bill in both Houses of Congress and 21 young people from 12 states.



With his signature, U.S. President Richard M. Nixon makes official the first Youth Appreciation Week.

Other Programs Emerge

Optimist International originated several other programs in the 1950s. One of these was the organization of an all-out campaign against the illegal sale and use of narcotics, especially among young people. At the 1954 International Convention, delegates passed a resolution asking all Optimists and Optimist Clubs to urge legislation for more severe penalties against the illegal sale of narcotics. At the 1955 convention, Optimists endorsed the death penalty for the conviction of an illegal narcotics sale to a juvenile. Legislation called for in the resolution was adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1956.

Club resolutions, speakers’ bureaus, public meetings, newspaper and radio publicity were all designed with the purpose to alert parents to the seriousness of the situation and to solicit their help in stopping it. Parents were urged to be on the lookout for such pornographic materials in their own mailboxes and, if any was discovered, to forward it at once to their local Post Office.

Another social problem plaguing post World War II society was school dropouts. Again, Optimist International organized a program of action to meet it. Many Optimists personally engaged in the Stay-in-School Program through service on committees that met with school officials and youth leaders and then with the young people themselves to encourage them to continue their education and to offer any assistance needed to remain in school.

One of the programs to emerge during this period that still enjoys participation by Clubs is the Respect

for Law program, an effort to combat apathy toward crime and the dispensation of justice. It started with reports of shocking examples of what was perceived to be a growing attitude of "I don't want to get involved." One of those occurred on the streets of New York where a young woman was brutally attacked and murdered even though 40 persons reportedly heard her screams but didn't try to help her or call the police. Incensed by this and other similar incidents, Optimist International partnered with the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Canadian Royal Mounted Police in developing a program.

FOUR FIGURES —AND UP

WE CAN NOW speak of Optimist Clubs in four figures!"

This is the statement of Chairman Milton M. Morris of the International New Club Building Committee, commenting on the advent of Optimism's 1000th club, the Optimist Club of Neenah-Menasha (Wis.) in District 9, and he continued: "This fact should do more constructive good for our prestige, stature and boys' work than anything that has happened to Optimism in a decade."

The event, which took place on November 16, 1954, turned a new page in the history of Optimist International. Satisfaction in the attainment of the long-sought goal was shared by the other 999 clubs as the news was quickly flashed to them, and there was a noticeable upsurge in new club building as sponsors everywhere spurred their efforts to make this a record-breaking year.

"The results thus far," Chairman Milt says, "make it plain that all records are to be exceeded this



year, and that more and more clubs are enjoying the fellowship and satisfaction of sponsoring a new Optimist Club.

"It's great to be working on the second thousand!"

A new flag on the map, and four figures on the scoreboard, as International Secretary-Treasurer Bernard B. Barford (left) and International New Club Building Director Ray Millard record the Optimist Club of Neenah-Menasha (Wis.).

"Optimist International Makes it to Four Figures!" Optimist International meets the milestone of 1,000 Clubs thanks to the formation of the Optimist Club of Neenah-Menasha, Wisconsin.

Chapter 7

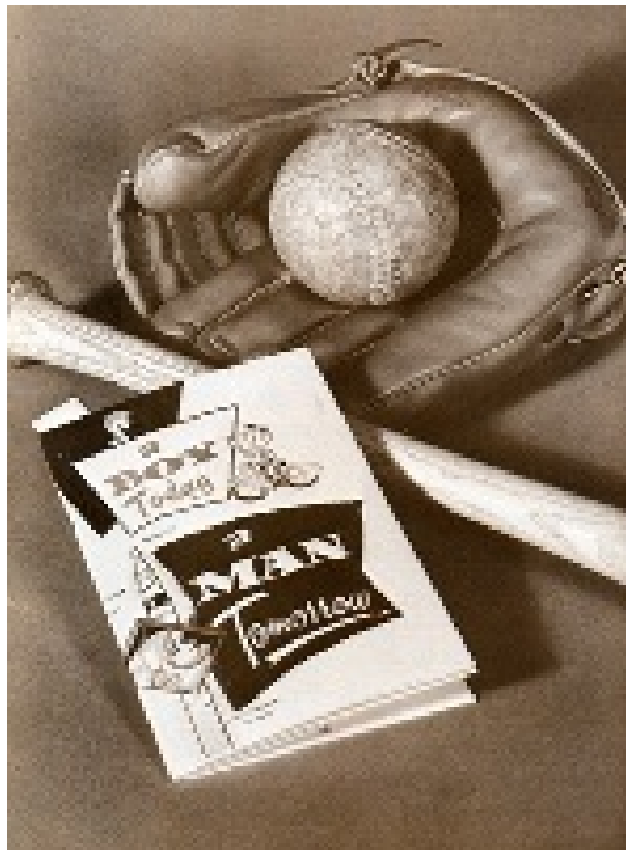
The 1960s

As Optimists continued waging a campaign against the illegal use of drugs, they resolved to wage a similar battle against pornography. At the 1960 International Convention, delegates passed a resolution urging all Optimist Clubs to conduct local campaigns to stop the increasing traffic in mail order pornography. To help Clubs wage these campaigns, Optimist International prepared a comprehensive anti-smut kit, providing step-by-step information on how a Club could alert its community to “the evil that was being spread by mail throughout the land.”

At about the same time, Optimist International began publishing a booklet called “A Boy Today, A Man Tomorrow.” Written by medical professionals, the booklet explained in simple terms what was called “the many mysteries of growing into manhood.” Clubs were encouraged to give it to health educators, doctors, nurses, teachers and parents in their communities. Within the first two years of its existence, more than 50,000 copies had been distributed, and by the 1990s it was estimated that several million copies of the little booklet had been put into circulation.



Optimists began the 1960s with an anti-smut campaign.



Not long after, a booklet titled A Boy Today, A Man Tomorrow was first published. It is estimated that several million copies of the booklet were produced.

With the ever-increasing fear of nuclear war, delegates at the 1961 convention passed a Home Shelter resolution urging Clubs and communities to safeguard their homes and families against the threat of radioactive fallout with adequate home shelters. The resolution also asked Clubs to conduct programs of public information and education in their communities to point out the need for home fallout shelters.

Highlighting that 1961 gathering of Optimists was an address by former U.S. Vice President Richard M. Nixon, who had lost the most recent presidential election to John F. Kennedy. Speaking to the 2,500 Optimists and their family members, Nixon said, "I have spoken to many individual service club meetings, but Optimist has a certain lift to it. The name itself simply warms you up and brightens you as you get an invitation or as you see the Optimist banner on the wall of a service club meeting place."



Addressing the 1961 Optimist Convention, Richard Nixon said, "I have spoken to many individual service club meetings, but Optimist has a certain lift to it."

A long-distance "conference call" from Omaha, Nebraska, became a highlight in the organization of an Optimist Club in Longview, North Carolina, in October of 1961. The Optimist Club of Longview, Hickory, North Carolina, became the 2,000th Club to join Optimist International and the long-distance call came from International President Raymond R. Rembolt, who was in Omaha visiting another Optimist Club there. The event celebrated the addition of more than a thousand new Clubs during the previous seven years.



The 2,000th Club, the Optimist Club of Longview, North Carolina, receives a congratulatory phone call from International President Raymond R. Rembolt.

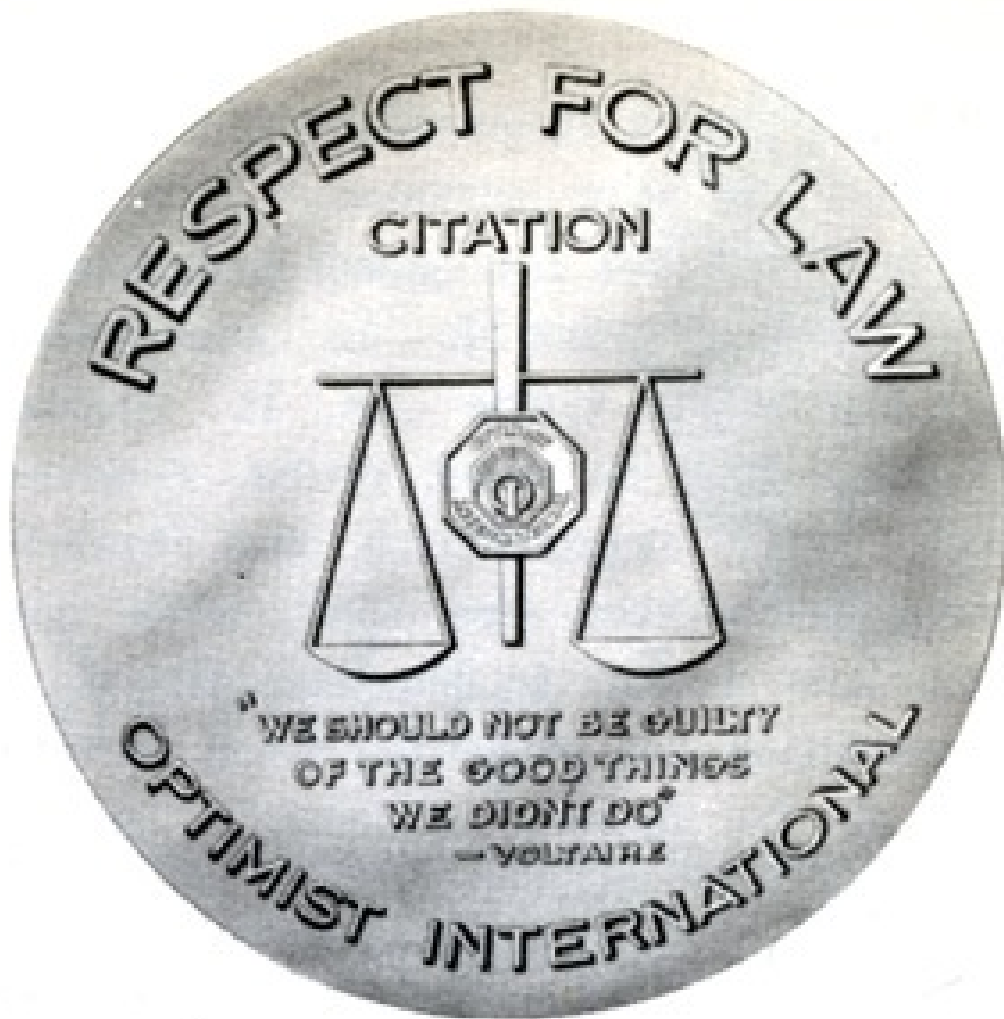
The August 1962 issue of *The Optimist* magazine brought news that the author of *The Optimist Creed* had died two months earlier. Christian D. Larson passed away in California at the age of 88. Besides being the man whom every Optimist has heard of and listened to through the words of the Creed, he reached many others through his writing, editing, publishing and lecturing.

On February 26, 1962, after weeks of preparation, the staff of Optimist International moved into its first permanent home at 4494 Lindell Blvd. in St. Louis, Missouri, after being housed in rented offices for nearly 40 years. The Board of Directors held its first meeting in the new headquarters the following month. Everyone involved felt that the new building, constructed at a cost of \$350,000, would provide ample space for the next 25 to 30 years. But just seven years later, at the International Convention, delegates voted to reactivate the building fund and assess each member 50 cents a year for the purpose of securing additional office space sometime in the future to accommodate the ever-growing organization's needs.

The era of numbers ended in Optimist International on July 1, 1964, as the 39 Optimist Districts got more than a number to identify themselves. The International Board of Directors approved a list of District names to replace District numbers, which had been used exclusively since 1919. In that first year, Optimist International divided into subdivisions, known as electoral sections. Each section encompassed a vast territory, in which the section leader (governor) was to travel and administer. As there were no Clubs in some of the areas, the prime responsibility of the section leader was to build new Clubs.

One of the most popular television shows in 1964 was the "Lawrence Welk Show," featuring the popular bandleader and a host of singers. One of them, a man known as Alladin, had been in contact with the Optimists of the Wilshire, California, Club who introduced him to *The Optimist Creed*. So inspired by the tenets, the singer read the Creed to a national audience during one of the live Welk broadcasts that year.

Another new community service program was launched in the summer of 1965, called "Respect for Law." This program was launched with the proposal that Optimist Clubs, working in their community, attempt to combat the attitude of non-involvement, apathy and indifference toward crime, law enforcement and the dispensation of justice. As the years went by, *Respect for Law* became one of the organization's most popular and long-lasting programs.



The International Convention in New Orleans in 1965 not only was the largest in the organization's history up to that point—with 2,514 in attendance—but delegates also made several significant changes to the International Constitution and Bylaws. The structure of the Board of Directors was changed by creating a new position of President-Elect, and instead of four Vice Presidents and four Directors, there would be eight Vice Presidents. Delegates also gave the International Secretary-Treasurer the additional title of Executive Secretary.

On a Wednesday afternoon in July of 1966, the longtime Executive Secretary of Optimist International, 54-year-old Bernard B. Burford, died of a heart attack while in his office visiting with 1966-67 President Robert Leonard. Immediately he appointed a special committee of Past Presidents to recommend to the Board a successor to Burford. By January of 1967, the Board, acting on the recommendation of the committee, reached into the ranks of its fellow volunteers to choose Hugh H. Cranford of Charlotte, North Carolina, as the new Executive Secretary. Cranford had 19 years of service to the organization at the Club, District and International levels. At 46, he had behind him a record of outstanding leadership as president of the Optimist Club of Charlotte, Governor of District 18 (North and South Carolina), a member of the Optimist International Board of Directors and seven years of service as chair of three International committees.

In the 1960s, as racial barriers were crumbling across the United States, many Optimists began asking their organization to lift an unwritten policy banning African Americans from joining Optimist Clubs. In 1966, the Board of Directors, chaired by Robert H. Leonard of Knoxville, Tennessee, acted to remove the ban and open Optimist membership so that it reflected the wording in the Optimist International Constitution, which called for membership to "...represent a cross section of the business, social and cultural life of the community."

As part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the organization, a float appeared in the 1968 New Year's Day Tournament of Roses parade. It consisted of a single figure, that of a typical kid, floating on his back in the "ol' swimmin' hole." Perched on one bare big toe was a frog. And scrolled across the sole of one bare foot rising above the water were the words, "OOOOOOHH BOY!" The Optimist float garnered the Judges' Special Award for Humor.



"OOOOOOHH BOY!" The Optimist float in the 1968 Tournament of Roses receives the judges' Special Award for Humor.

The year 1968-69 saw the advent of Operation Reach Out, a cooperative effort coordinated by the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, as well as Partners in Service, a joint program with the Boy Scouts of America. Project RSVP, which stood for Register, Study, Vote and Participate, was designed to renew and stimulate public interest, faith and participation in the government; to indicate that the problems in government at the time were not in the basic system but in the lack of active citizen interest and involvement in the process of making the elective system work.

The following year, 1969, Optimists revitalized the Drug Abuse Information Program, developed in cooperation with the American Medical Association, which outlined steps to be taken by Optimist Clubs in working with local doctors, druggists and law enforcement officials in attacking the drug abuse problem.

As the decade grew to a close and the organization celebrated its 50th year, membership passed the 100,000 mark and anticipation grew for the 3,000th Optimist Club to be built. The first half century of existence had seen the organization reach those lofty numbers from a start in 1919 with 11 Clubs and a total of 1,300 members.



Optimist International President Gene Sternberg (center) presents a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the organization to Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau in 1960.

Chapter 8

The 1970s

As the 1970s began, the organization continued to develop new programs for the development of young people. The Tri-Star Basketball program for boys 9 to 12 years of age was adopted. The first year of the program saw more than 300 Clubs and 75,000 youngsters participate. Competing with others their own age, boys demonstrated their skills at passing, shooting and dribbling. As it grew in popularity, the Tri-Star program was later expanded to include football, baseball, golf and hockey, and began to offer opportunities for girls to participate also.



Tri-Star is born with a basketball program. In this photo, 13-year-old Kevin Beecher shows off his dribbling technique as John Price of the Optimist Club of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, times him.

In 1972, the Opportunity for Involvement Club program was adopted. An Opportunity for Involvement Club was made up of young men and women in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades and the upper four grades in Canada. The Club served as a vehicle through which they could become active and involved in solving problems that challenged their community and society.

As the ecology movement grew in society, Optimists became involved through the L-I-F-E (Living is for Everything) program. It was a program through which a Club could educate, stimulate and lead its home community in an organized battle for clean air, pure water, uncluttered streets, proper disposal of trash and junk, and a quiet atmosphere.

On October 15, 1972, 70 of North America's top community leaders, hand-picked for their prestige, expertise at getting things done and their awareness of a mounting social problem, venereal disease, gathered in St. Louis at the request of Optimist International. They had come for the two-day seminar, financed by a grant of \$20,000 by the United States government, to consider the problem and what could be done about it.

Optimist International, with the launching of its program AVOID in 1972, became one of the first service club organizations to move in a direction to conduct an active program to combat syphilis and gonorrhea.

As the programs of the organization became more inclusive of all children, boys and girls alike, the organization once again altered its motto from "Friend of the Boy" to "Friend of Youth."

In 1974, after several discussions with officials of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Optimist International launched another new program called "Adopt a Neighborhood."

The program recommended that a metropolitan Club select a definable small area in an inner-city neighborhood, such as a public housing development. A youth center, church or school would be used as a focal point. While the main objective of the Optimist volunteers was to provide service, guidance and help to disadvantaged youth, they were also to serve the entire community.

As the decade of the 1970s entered its final years, Optimists looked for more new programs and challenges to which they could turn their efforts. In 1978, the organization developed the Optimist Junior World Golf Tournament. 1978-79 International President Dudley Williams of San Diego had initiated discussions of co-sponsoring one of the most prestigious junior golf events in the world with the San Diego Junior Golf Association. Optimist Clubs and Districts began holding qualifying tournaments to advance their best young golfers to the annual championships held at the Torrey Pines courses in San Diego. The tournament featured over 700 young golfers annually competing in five age groups. In 1995, the organization decided the time had come to be able to offer more young golfers from its District qualifiers the opportunity to participate at an international level. That summer, the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships were born at Doral Country Club in Miami, Florida. The following year the championships were relocated to the PGA National golf courses in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, where the prestige of "The Optimist," as it has come to be known among the young golfers, continues to grow.



Optimist International President Dudley D. Williams presents a trophy to Monty Leong, winner of the boys 15-17 division in the first Optimist Junior World Championships.

And while many Clubs were helping the gifted young athletes in their communities, others jumped on the bandwagon when the Help Them Hear program was rolled out for introduction in the 1978-79 year.

Help Them Hear offered many Clubs a chance to do something for those young people, and adults, who were hearing impaired. The program was designed so that Clubs could implement programs to heighten public awareness of the problems associated with hearing impairment; and to provide local testing facilities as well as corrective and educational techniques for those with hearing problems. The program led to the formation of the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH), which shared equal billing with the Oratorical and Essay contests.



At a 1973 Michigan-Illinois football game in Ann Arbor, Michigan, the band pays tribute to Optimists and youth prior to the game, as 80,000 spectators enjoy the celebration.



Optimist International celebrates 3,000 Clubs as the Optimist Club of Dumbarton, Maryland, is chartered in 1972.

Chapter 9

The 1980s

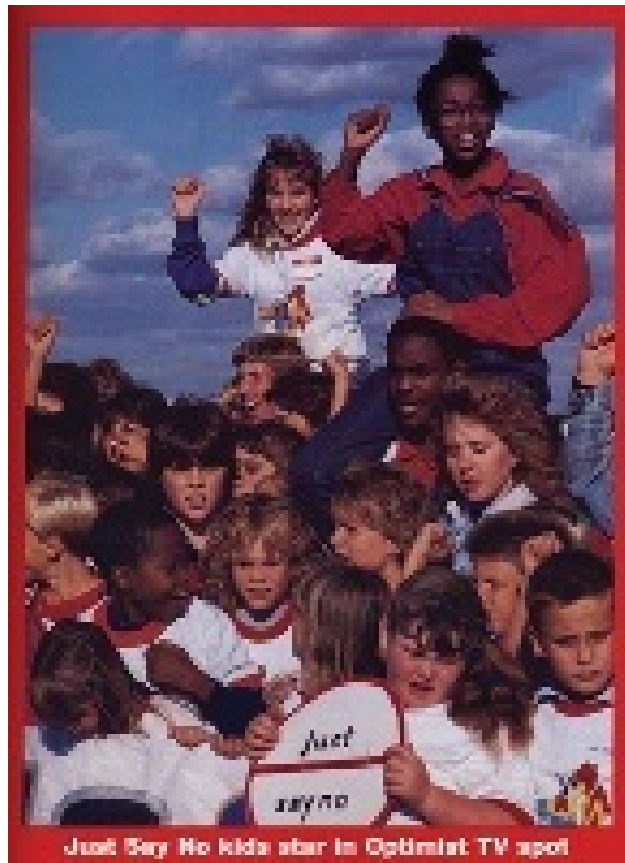
A special Optimist program for high school students, the Essay Contest, was launched in 1983. Students are asked to write an essay on an assigned topic as they compete for top honors at the Club level. Winners are then entered in District competition and from the District winners, an International-level winner is selected. The contest continues to be one of the most popular service projects conducted by Optimist Clubs today.



The cover of The Optimist, June 1984

In 1985, Optimist International endorsed the national Just Say No program and introduced an anti-drug program for use by Clubs. Optimists recognized that drug abuse was the most serious problem facing young people at the time. Because peer pressure was considered the major reason why young people experiment with drugs, the major thrust of Just Say No was to counter this peer pressure.

Although Optimists were just one of many supporters of Just Say No, they were perhaps the most active. Less than two years after launching its program, Optimist International had already reached nearly 1.5 million children in nearly 10,000 schools.



800 youth boldly "Just Say No" in an Optimist TV commercial.

Optimist Youth Clubs took a major step forward the weekend of September 9-11, 1988. Delegates representing Youth Clubs from throughout the organization held their first international convention and formed an international organization, Junior Optimist Octagon International, to become known more familiarly as JOOI. Elected as their first international president was Adriana Johnson of San Antonio, Texas.

The 1980s was a decade of tremendous growth. In the first 50 years of the organization's existence, Optimist Club membership grew steadily until hitting the 100,000 mark in 1969. However, just over a decade later, membership topped the 130,000 plateau in 1980. And by the end of the decade, Optimist International reached the zenith of its membership rise with over 175,000 members.

The continued growth of Optimist International was apparent not only in the number of members and Clubs, but in the corresponding number of Districts. As Districts grew larger it became more difficult for the District leaders to give as much of their time as they would have liked to each Club. Deeming it necessary to sub-divide existing Districts, the International Board of Directors, between 1981 and 1986, expanded from 38 to 50 the number of Districts. The province of Ontario was divided into four Districts and the state of North Carolina into three. Missouri, Indiana and Florida were each divided into two Districts, and two new Districts were formed from the former Pacific Southwest District.

The most significant geographic change from the 1960s through the 1980s was the growth in Quebec. In 1966, there were only 36 Optimist Clubs in that Canadian province. That number swelled to over 350 by 1980, when the organization had its first French-Canadian International President, Lionel Grenier of Terrebonne, Quebec.



The first youth convention took place in 1988 and was the beginning of Junior Optimist Octagon International.

Growth in Quebec was staggering during this period. In 1977-78, 52 new Clubs were built. Two years later, 60 new Clubs were formed in Quebec, a record for any District that still stands. By October of 1988 when Fernand Rondeau of Montreal assumed the presidency, Optimist International had over 30,000 members in over 700 Clubs in Quebec, which at the time represented nearly 20% of the entire organization.



"Presidential Meet and Greet": 1985-1986 Optimist International President James Attarian meets U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

As more and more women began assuming positions of responsibility in business and community life, many Optimists began questioning why they couldn't recruit these women who had become bank presidents, store managers and practicing attorneys into their Clubs. An amendment to the Optimist International Constitution allowing Clubs the option of admitting women failed at the 1985 International Convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico, but received a 61% favorable vote at the 1986 Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, just short of the two-thirds majority required. Members opposing the amendment feared a breakdown of the social traditions the organization had known.

Going into 1987, concerns had grown about possible legal challenges to the men-only provision. Also, many Optimists began to see women's membership as an opportunity for substantial membership growth. The final impetus for change came on May 4, 1987, when the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling that Rotary International could not revoke the charter of a club that had admitted women. After studying the ruling, the Optimist International Board of Directors, chaired by 1986-87 President Lester R. Craft, determined that the men-only provision could no longer be enforced.

The decision that women would be accepted as members of Optimist Clubs was announced on June 19, 1987, 68 years to the day from the founding of the organization. Eleven days later, delegates to the International Convention in Montreal removed the men-only provision from the Constitution.



After membership was opened to women in 1987, they took on leadership roles almost immediately.

A rush of new female members poured into Optimist Clubs. All-female Clubs quickly chartered in Newhall, California; Notre Dame de Ile Perrot, Quebec; Windsor Gardens, Colorado; and Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to name a few. Among the first female members was Carolyn Craft, President Craft's wife. By June 1988, an estimated 6,000 women had joined Optimist Clubs. Many were serving as Club officers, and with the 1988-89 year many began moving into Lieutenant Governor positions and District chairmanships. In 1991-92, the first female governor of an Optimist District took office when Jewel L. Thompson of Wichita Falls, Texas, took over that leadership role in the North Texas District. The first woman to hold the office of International Vice President was Virginia (Ginny) Ricker of Columbia, South Carolina, in 1997-98, just over ten years after the historic vote in Montreal. And in 2006-07, Ronnie Dunn of Frankfort, Kentucky, became the first female International President in the organization's history. It was only fitting that Dunn presided over the 2007 International Convention held in the same venue in Montreal where the vote to admit women had been held exactly 20 years earlier.

Optimists faced another type of challenge between 1986 and 1988, skyrocketing liability insurance rates. The high cost of insurance forced revocation or disbandment of over 350 Clubs, many of those being smaller, less active Clubs.

On October 1, 1986, Hugh H. Cranford began his retirement after serving 19 years as Executive Secretary. Succeeding him was Richard E. Arnold, a business executive and certified public accountant. One year later, his title was changed to Executive Director.

In addition, the former Montreal Supply Depot was moved to a larger, more centrally located facility, renamed the Canadian Service Centre and offered a broader range of member services.

Chapter 10

The 1990s

1997-98 International President J. Wayne Smith's theme was "Renaissance, Commitment to Growth." It epitomized the entire 1990s for the organization. Optimists spent the decade reigniting their spirit of Optimism, revitalizing Club programs, recruiting new members and serving more children.

International President Kenneth E. Monschein jump-started the 1990s with a call to action in 1989-90. That year, Optimist International experienced its largest growth in history with 318 new Clubs chartering and more than 20 associate Clubs forming in Hungary. For the first time, Optimism had spread outside of North America.



International President Ken Monschein presents charter certificates to Presidents of 17 Clubs at a District convention.

Clubs continued to spring up in areas previously untouched by Optimism. Realizing the untapped opportunities and the importance of expanding overseas, delegates to the 1992 International Convention in Anaheim, California, approved a one dollar dues increase for international expansion. These funds would be earmarked to build Clubs, add members in foreign countries and service these new Clubs and members. In a quick response, the Optimist Club of Berstett, France, incorporated on July 7, 1992; the Dubna Optimist Club of Russia formed in March 1993; and the Optimist Club of Hanover, Germany, joined soon after on August 16, 1993.



Executive Director Richard E. Arnold congratulates Dr. Wulf Krause on Germany's first Optimist Club.

Next, Optimists moved to the Pacific Rim and initiated their first Club in the Philippines on September 1, 1995. Less than a year later, five more Clubs had been chartered in that country. Building on that success, Optimists headed to China, where on January 19, 1997, the First Kaohsiung City Optimist Club chartered in Taiwan with 50 members. These proud new Optimists were initiated before 160 government officials, guests and family members. Just a few days later the First Hong Kong Optimist Club formed with 30 charter members, and by May the First Kaohsiung City Club had already sponsored its first new Club, the First Taipei City Optimist Club.

On the home front growth ignited in the Northeastern U.S., and in October 1990 the New England District formed with 17 Clubs. After a 10-year absence, Optimism returned to Alaska when the Fairbanks Optimist Club formed in July 1992.

But the most significant expression of Optimism occurred on the island of Jamaica. While a Club had existed in Kingston since 1980, the late 1980s and early '90s saw an explosion of growth in that country. So much so, in fact, that in the 1992-93 year, the Jamaica District was formed under the leadership of its first Governor, Theo Golding of Kingston, who would go on to become the first International President from a country other than the U.S. or Canada in 2007-08. Optimist Clubs began springing up all over the tiny island and soon overflowed to neighboring islands such as Barbados, the Cayman Islands, Trinidad and many others. In 1997-98, the District changed its name to the Caribbean District to more accurately reflect its outreach.

The renaissance spirit flowed into every facet of the organization, and international programs were no exception. With their revitalized attitude, Optimists began researching new programs and revamping old ones.

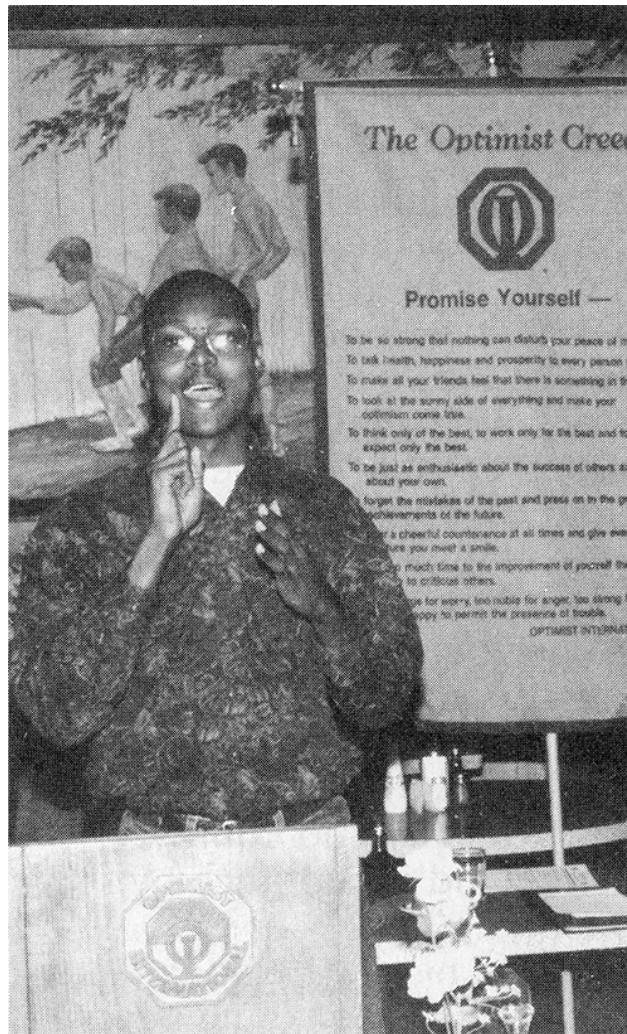
In the early 1990s, substance abuse prevention continued to top the list of concerns in North America's

schools and communities. Wanting to help where kids needed them most, Optimists immediately reacted by supporting drug prevention and education programs. Soon, the International Office functioned as a clearinghouse for individual Clubs by providing resources to individual members. In addition to embracing Just Say No, Optimists now dedicated themselves to additional drug-deterrence programs such as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE); Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD); and Students Against Steroids (SAS). Optimist International also adopted the “Get Real” program, which educated students on the life-threatening problems caused by steroid use.



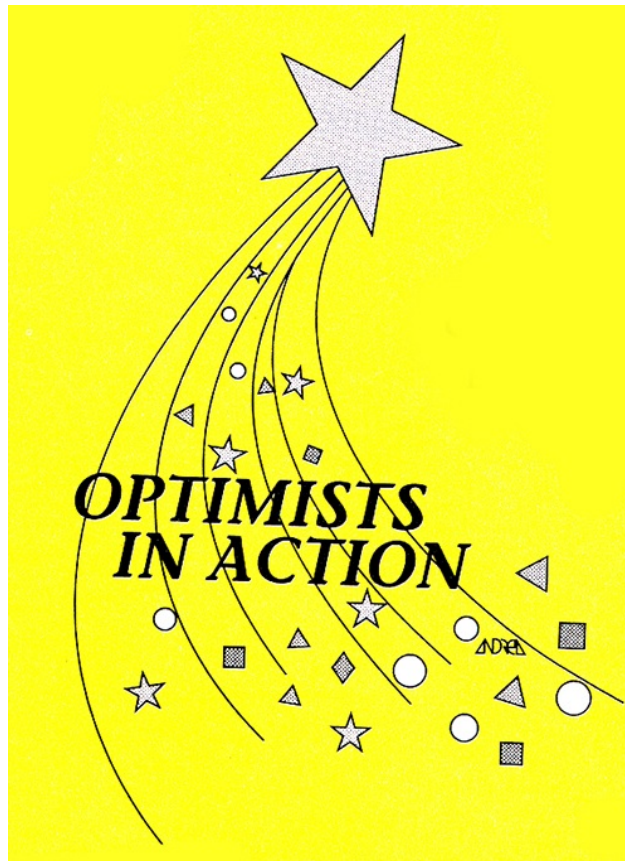
Optimists were dedicated to educating youth about the very real dangers of steroids.

Help Them Hear, another well-received Optimist program, pointed members toward a new endeavor. In 1990-91, Optimists took their involvement with the hearing impaired one step further by developing the Communications Contest for the Hearing Impaired (which later became the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, CCDHH). The CCDHH program, run much like the Oratorical Contest, had youths making a presentation in voice or sign language on a pre-assigned subject before a panel of judges. CCDHH started as a pilot with 13 Districts, but thanks to its tremendous success scholarships were made available to all Districts.



Optimists provided these deserving youth an opportunity to complete for scholarships.

In 1992 the Optimists in Action Day pilot program set out to unite hundreds of volunteers in a single day of community service. Optimists in seven randomly selected Districts made such a positive impact on their communities that the Board of Directors approved Optimists in Action Day as an annual international program.



To keep up with the pace of children, the age-old Bicycle Safety Week expanded to Safety on Wheels in 1995. This broadened program covered all “wheeled” activities such as in-line skating, skateboarding, car and bus riding and driving.

Optimists responded promptly to parents’ fear of rising violence as they did to drug concerns. On May 6, 1995, the first Optimist Day of Non-Violence was incorporated into the existing Respect for Law program. Optimists created this day as a way for their Clubs and communities to jointly prevent violence and promote peace and harmony.

Over the years, Optimists have focused on mentoring to remain a positive influence in children’s lives. This dedication became a marketing focus to attract corporate involvement, and in 1996 Morton International sponsored Optimist International’s newest program, “Always Buckle Children in the Back Seat” (ABC) public awareness and education campaign. Clubs distributed brochures and support material to educate caregivers on the dangers of kids sitting in the front seat of a vehicle with passenger side airbags. At the end of the program’s inaugural year, requests for more than 3.5 million brochures deluged the International Office.

As Optimists explored ways to update their long-lived ongoing programs, one aspect always remained the same—their mission to provide positive activities for children and teens. As established with the first Youth Club in 1924, adult members saw the future of their organization in the eyes of their younger counterparts. Keeping with their goal of introducing as many children as possible to the philosophy of helping others, the organization developed Alpha Clubs. Since June 1992, kids in first through fourth grades have embraced leadership development and service opportunities across North America.



These youth were Members of Aunt Millie's Alpha Club - the very first Alpha Club.

It didn't take long for all Youth Club members to immerse themselves in Optimism. They dreamed of becoming the same viable community entity as their parent organization, and pursued that goal. Until this time, Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) conventions were for District officers only, but in July 1993 JOOI members planned their first organization-wide international convention. With full support of their sponsors, 300 of JOOI's 20,000 members gathered in Louisville, Kentucky, for a weekend of celebration, learning and decision-making.



JOOI Clubs provide both character building and recreational activities for youth.

Thanks to a group of dedicated West Coast Optimists, Optimist International's future was also taking a new shape, but this time in the public arena. On January 1, 1996, the organization joined prestigious ranks by sponsoring its first Tournament of Roses Parade float in 28 years. The following summer, delegates to the International Convention in Las Vegas passed an \$.80 dues increase earmarked for the Rose Parade float that enabled the tradition to carry on for several more years.

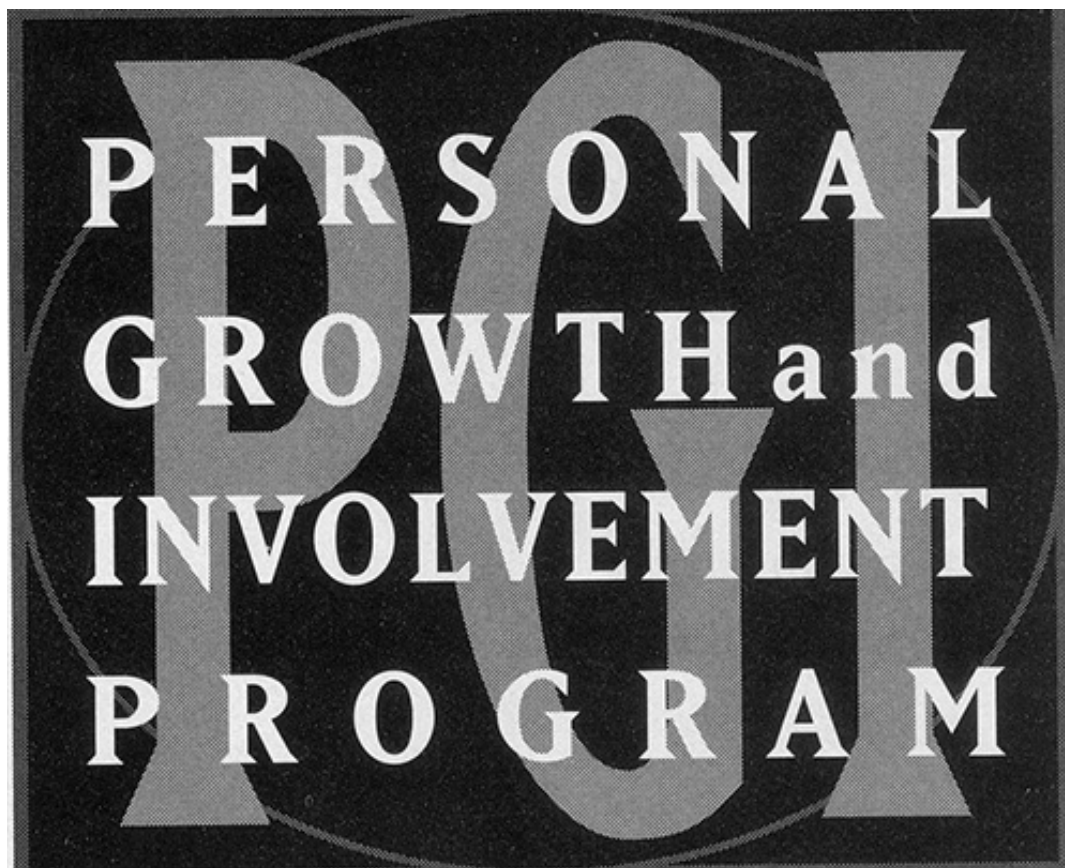
Optimists were also reaching new heights with their junior golf program. After co-producing the

Optimist Junior World of Golf championships for 17 years with the San Diego City Junior Golf Association, Optimist International developed its own championship event. In 1995, the Optimist International Junior Golf Championships (OIJGC) was born and functioned completely under Optimist control. The Doral Golf Club in Miami Beach, Florida, housed the event's inaugural run and then the event moved to PGA National Resort and Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, in an attempt to attract corporate funding and television coverage.

This prestigious tournament rapidly gained respect from junior golfers worldwide. In 1997 the flourishing program received national and international recognition on ESPN. The event continues to draw around 600 young golfers every summer and is considered to be one of the top junior golf tournaments.

The junior golf program taught children and teens that excelling athletically also required improving one's interpersonal, leadership and teamwork skills. These same basic concepts apply to adult Optimists. So, in a decade where an emphasis had been placed on growth in Club numbers and programs, members were also challenged to enhance their personal and professional lives. Optimist leadership encouraged members to develop their individual talents, enhance their self-esteem and improve their career marketability while serving their Optimist Club and community.

To accomplish these goals, the Leadership Development Committee designed and implanted the Personal Growth and Involvement Program (PGI) in 1994. The PGI program enabled members to complete levels of achievement in attendance, activities, membership growth, knowledge of the organization, self-development and communication.



Optimists are committed to bettering themselves, as well as their communities.

In addition, Skills Development Modules were created, instructing members on topics such as "Choosing Optimism as a Philosophy of Life," "Creative Problem Solving," "Public Speaking" and "Effective Time Management."

In order to serve members in a more timely and efficient manner, the International Office entered the computer age in 1991. In 1997 the organization hopped aboard the information highway by developing its first website and installing e-mail capabilities. The website allowed members to quickly gain valuable Club and program information, while e-mail enabled members to communicate with and receive materials from the International staff.

In an effort to reduce space needs and staff expenses at the International Office, provide a higher level of service to members and offer a broader range of products at competitive prices, the supply operation moved out of the office in November 1991 and was taken over by an outside company.

More reengineering came in 1993 when the main office lobby received a facelift for the first time in more than 30 years. Members made this possible by approving a facility maintenance and improvement dues assessment.

Following Executive Director Richard E. Arnold's retirement in 1995, the organization tapped the former executive director of the U.S. Jaycees, Stephen P. Lawson, to take over that position. Four years later, the organization again turned to an association executive, Logan (Trip) Gore, formerly head of Sertoma International, to be the organization's ninth Executive Director.

Chapter 11

A New Millennium: 2000

As people worldwide celebrated the dawn of the new millennium, Optimist International celebrated greater achievements in its service to youth. While respecting the organization's traditions of the 20th century, Optimists forged into the new millennium with renewed enthusiasm and a fresh perspective on how best to serve youth in the 21st century.

One of the first things the Board of Directors did was place more importance on marketing the services and programs the organization offered. Adopting the slogan "Optimists ... Bringing Out the Best in Kids," the organization put specific emphasis on the mission of Optimist Clubs without de-emphasizing the standard bearer "Friend of Youth."

On July 2, 2001, then International President Bob Garner was invited to the White House along with the leaders of other service club organizations to meet with U.S. President George W. Bush. The meeting of the "volunteering minds" was called so Bush could unveil his plan to recruit one million mentors for the nation's youth. Garner and his fellow community service leaders met briefly with the President and First Lady for an open press conference before heading into the Oval Office for more discussions. The next day, Garner addressed the delegates at the International Convention in Orlando about his visit.



Bob Garner, 2000-2001 International President shares a few kind words with US President, George W. Bush.

"Of great importance," he told the gathering of Optimists, "is the fact that at no time in recent history, or possibly ever, had the presidents of the world's four largest service organizations assembled with the president of the United States to commit their collective strength and energy behind a common effort. And, of great importance to Optimist International, is that it is an effort clearly designed and focused on 'Bringing Out the Best in Kids.'"

"President Bush asked the respective presidents if we could, collectively, directly touch the lives of one million kids in the next four years. We each pledged that this was not only possible, but also a clearly attainable goal."

Just a few months later, the Board of Directors endorsed the Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign as the organization's focal point for serving youth in the years ahead. The Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign (CCC) was designed to support young people with cancer, to support cancer patients' families

and caregivers, provide support to healthcare providers, and to help childhood cancer research. Optimists saw childhood cancer as the ultimate test, with the organization having both the manpower and the willpower to defeat this devastating disease. No other service organization had put its international resources on the line to rid the world of childhood cancer.

In just the first few months after kicking off the program, Optimist Clubs began responding. In the Midwestern and Southwestern Ontario districts Optimists committed to raising one million dollars for the new Children's Hospital of Western Ontario. Optimists in the Pacific Northwest District volunteered more than 1,500 hours to serve more than 3,700 kids with cancer and their family members. And in South Carolina, the Greater Spartanburg Optimist Club teamed up with the Cherokee County Cancer Society to provide transportation and lodging for families who have children requiring oncology treatment who need to travel to pediatric care facilities in North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.



This childhood cancer patient was given a laptop by an Optimist Club to assist her in keeping in touch with her friends during treatments.

To better meet the goal of defeating childhood cancer, the organization committed to raise nearly one million dollars to fund a research fellow at Johns Hopkins University in Maryland, who would be devoted to finding a cure for childhood cancers. By the end of the decade, Optimists had reached the monetary goal. While donations continued to fund the fellowship, other donations to the CCC program allowed the organization to start a Club matching grants program for Clubs to run their own programs under the childhood cancer umbrella.

Even longtime programs were seeing increases in Optimist and youth participation as the 2000s began. The Optimist International Junior Golf Championships continued to grow, with districts hosting more and more boys and girls in their qualifying tournaments. Participants in the OIJGC at PGA National neared the 700 mark in 2002, making it the largest tournament ever held. Golfers from across the U.S., Canada and 23 other countries and territories participated in the competition while learning more about each other's cultures.

Youth clubs, in existence since the early 1920s, also showed a promising upsurge in popularity with young people. Positive growth in the numbers of members and clubs marked the beginning years of the new century.



These young skiers attended "Optimist Snow School" sponsored by a Canadian Optimist Club.

The organization wasn't afraid to try new programs either, even if the results were less than satisfactory. The initial Optimist International Junior Bowling Championships were held in St. Louis at the end of 2001 in an attempt to offer yet another outlet for service to young people. With initial district participation not meeting the needed expectations, the program was canceled after one year with the organization continuing to study and formulate new youth-serving programs.

Expansion of Optimism to new countries increased after the turn of the century. New Optimist Clubs were formed in England, France, Mexico and Greece. A new classification of club, the Associate Club, was instituted allowing people in countries where the language and/or economics wouldn't permit Optimist International to fully service them a chance to provide much-needed community and youth service under the Optimist banner. Associate Clubs were rapidly formed in Burundi, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Russia, Tanzania, Uganda and Ukraine.

As the new century dawned, it became apparent that communications were going to be more important than ever before, and delivered in new ways. With the advancements of the Internet and e-mail, the Board of Directors mandated that the organization be "paperless" by May of 2003. Most of the handbooks, brochures, newsletters, training manuals and other publications developed for use by club members were made available for downloading directly off the Optimist website, thereby saving the organization tens of thousands of dollars annually in printing and postage expense, and giving members instant access to a multitude of information.

In 2002, all clubs, lieutenant governors, governors, international committee members, the international board of directors and some district chairs were given access to their own Optimist e-mail boxes. Communications from Optimist International leadership and staff to the clubs and districts was now immediate and timely.


The electronic revolution also impacted Optimists' outreach to young people as the Internet Safety program was unveiled in December 2008, with the focus of providing Clubs with resources to educate both young people and their parents about potential dangers on the internet and offering information about safe practices while online.


In 2005, the organization named its tenth Executive Director with the hiring of Benny Ellerbe, who was formerly the Secretary-General of Jaycees International (JCI).


As the world continued to change in the exciting times of the new millennium, Optimist International changed with it, providing new and exciting ways for Optimists to continue their work of "Bringing Out the Best in Kids."


Appendix A


Optimist International Officers


<u>1919-1920</u>		
	Officers: President —William H. Harrison (Louisville, Kentucky) 1st Vice President —Earl B. Bowman (St. Louis, Missouri) 2nd Vice President —E.L. Monser (Buffalo, New York) Secretary —Dr. Harry G. Hill (Indianapolis, Indiana) Treasurer —William C. Snyder (Kansas City, Missouri)	Board of Governors: William H. Harrison Earl B. Bowman E. L. Monser William C. Snyder Section 1 —C.E. DeLong (Syracuse, New York) Section 2 —J.L. Schoen (Chicago, Illinois) Section 3 —J.M. Schmid (Indianapolis, Indiana) Section 4 —Rupert F. Fry (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) Section 5 —C. Jasper Bell (Kansas City, Missouri) Section 6 —W.K. Robertson (Springfield, Illinois) Section 7 —C. Jasper Bell (Kansas City, Missouri) <i>(appointed to represent)</i>
	<i>William H. Harrison</i>	


<u>1920-1921</u>		
	Officers: President —William H. Harrison (Louisville, Kentucky) 1st Vice President —S.M. Henley (Kansas City, Missouri) 2nd Vice President —H.T. Watson (Los Angeles, California) 3rd Vice President —Ernst F. Bethke (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) 4th Vice President —Dr. Martin Ritter (Chicago, Illinois) Treasurer —William C. Snyder (Kansas City, Missouri)	District Governors: Carleton E. Ladd (Buffalo, New York) J.L. Schoen (Chicago, Illinois) J.M. Schmid (Indianapolis, Indiana) O.L. Prohaska (Chicago, Illinois) S.M. Henley (Kansas City, Missouri) James W. Chilton (St. Louis, Missouri) William Marshal (Los Angeles, California)
	Executive Committee: William H. Harrison S.M. Henley O.L. Prohaska, Governor (Chicago, Illinois) James W. Chilton, Governor (St. Louis, Missouri) Dr. Harry Hill, Secretary (Indianapolis, Indiana)	


<u>1921-1922</u>		
	Officers: President —Cyrus Crane Willmore (St. Louis, Missouri) 1st Vice President —William B. Guyton (Los Angeles, California) 2nd Vice President —J. Bailey Wray (Knoxville, Tennessee) 3rd Vice President —O.L. Prohaska (Chicago, Illinois) 4th Vice President —E.E. Fischer (Columbus, Ohio) Secretary —Dr. Harry G. Hill (Indianapolis, Indiana) Treasurer —Harry B. Lewis (Springfield, Illinois)	District Governors: District 1 —William Henry Harrison (Hartford, Connecticut) District 2 —(vacant) District 3 —H.E. Garrett (Louisville, Kentucky) District 4 —Silas Williams (Chattanooga, Tennessee) District 5 —J.M. Schmid (Indianapolis, Indiana) District 6 —Ernst Bethke (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) District 7 —Dr. E.E. Hagler (Springfield, Illinois) District 8 —S.M. Henley (Kansas City, Missouri) District 9 —William Marshal (Los Angeles, California)
	Executive Committee: Cyrus Crane Willmore J. Bailey Wray Harry B. Lewis Dr. Harry G. Hill Ernst F. Bethke, Governor (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) Dr. E.E. Hagler, Governor (Springfield, Illinois) J.M. Schmid, Governor (Indianapolis, Indiana)	


<u>1922-1923</u>		
 <p><i>Jack Martin</i></p>	Officers: President —Jack Martin (San Francisco, California) 1st Vice President —Frank O. Denney (Kansas City, Missouri) 2nd Vice President —J. Bailey Wray (Knoxville, Tennessee) 3rd Vice President —Walter Smith (St. Louis, Missouri) 4th Vice President —Chester O. Fischer (Peoria, Illinois) Treasurer —Harry B. Lewis (Chicago, Illinois) <i>(appointed secretary-treasurer in August 1922)</i>	District Governors: <i>(Each District Governor was also a member of the Board of Directors)</i> District 1 —William Henry Harrison (Hartford, Connecticut) District 2 —H.E. Garrett, (Louisville, Kentucky) District 3 —N.F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio) District 4 —Dr. Sterling J. Foster, (Birmingham, Alabama) District 5 —Chet Converse (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) District 6 —James Chilton (St. Louis, Missouri) District 7 —Ernst Bethke (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) District 8 —J.O. Emerson (Kansas City, Kansas) District 9 —Fred L. Cavally (Denver, Colorado) District 10 —Charles H. Paul (Seattle, Washington) District 11 —William R. Marshall (Los Angeles, California)
	Executive Committee: Jack Martin Chester O. Fischer J. Bailey Wray Harry B. Lewis Dr. Harry G. Hill Ernst F. Bethke, Governor (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) James W. Chilton, Governor (St. Louis, Missouri) H.E. Garrett, Governor (Louisville, Kentucky) Victor O. Post (San Francisco, California) <i>(appointed secretary in June 1922, but was not an officer nor on the executive committee)</i>	


<u>1923-1924</u>		
 <p><i>James W. Chilton</i></p>	Officers: President —James W. Chilton (St. Louis, Missouri) 1st Vice President —C.H. Converse (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) 2nd Vice President —George D. Welles (Toledo, Ohio) 3rd Vice President —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) 4th Vice President —Samuel R. Read (Chattanooga, Tennessee) Executive Secretary —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri) <i>(appointed June 16, 1923)</i> Field Secretary —Jay C. Goodrich (St. Louis, Missouri) <i>(appointed June 16, 1923)</i> Treasurer —Harry B. Lewis (Chicago, Illinois)	District Governors: District 1 —William Henry Harrison (Hartford, Connecticut) District 2 —Oscar M. Romelfanger (Sharon, Pennsylvania) District 3 —J.N. Elliott (Lexington, Kentucky) District 4 —J. Bailey Wray (Knoxville, Tennessee) District 5 —N.F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio) District 6 —Dr. Sterling J. Foster (Birmingham, Alabama) District 7 —Dr. Oscar E. Veatch (Ft. Worth, Texas) District 8 —Dr. W.A. Hinckle (Peoria, Illinois) District 9 —E.H. Wenzel (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) District 10 —S.P. Meseraull (Kansas City, Kansas) District 11 —Cyrus Crane Willmore (St. Louis, Missouri) District 12 —F.D. Zimmerman (Denver, Colorado) District 13 —C.H. Paul (Seattle, Washington) District 14 —Jack Martin (San Francisco, California)/H.O. Henderson (Long Beach, California)
	Executive Committee: James W. Chilton Harry B. Lewis C.H. Converse George D. Welles Harlington Wood Dr. W.A. Hinckle, Governor (Peoria, Illinois) E.H. Wenzel, Governor (Milwaukee, Wisconsin)	


<u>1924-1925</u>		
 <p><i>Sherman Rogers</i></p>	Officers: President —Sherman Rogers (New York, New York) 1st Vice President —Leo F. Nohl (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) 2nd Vice President —Dr. Charles B. Kern (Lafayette, Indiana) 3rd Vice President —H.O. Henderson (Long Beach, California) 4th Vice President —Roland A. McCrady (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) Secretary-Treasurer —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri)	District Governors: District 1 —William H. Harrison (Hartford, Connecticut) District 2 —Douglas Wood (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) District 3 —Maurice Stith (Louisville, Kentucky) District 4 —James W. Booth (St. Petersburg, Florida) District 5 —Nicolas F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio) District 6 —John Alvin Saxton (New Orleans, Louisiana) District 7 —C. Edd Hall (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) District 8 —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) District 9 —John P. Hume (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) District 10 —S.P. Meseraull (Kansas City, Kansas) District 11 —E.H. Wenzel (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) District 12 —F.D. Zimmerman (Denver, Colorado) District 13 —Charles R. DeMille (Seattle, Washington) District 14 —William B. Marshall (Los Angeles, California) District 15 —J. Alfred Yorston (Toronto, Ontario)
	Executive Committee: Sherman Rogers Leo F. Nohl Dr. Charles B. Kern Thomas B. Elliott Harlington Wood, Governor (Springfield, Illinois) F.D. Zimmerman, Governor (Denver, Colorado) Nicholas F. Nolan, Governor (Dayton, Ohio)	


<u>1925-1926</u>		
 <p><i>Leo F. Nohl</i></p>	Officers: President —Leo F. Nohl (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) 1st Vice President —C. Edd Hall (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) 2nd Vice President —Hal Thurston (Kansas City, Missouri) 3rd Vice President —Oscar A. Smith (Los Angeles, California) 4th Vice President —Nicolas F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio) Secretary-Treasurer —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri)	District Governors: District 1 —William Henry Harrison (Hartford, Connecticut) District 2 —Douglas Wood (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) District 3 —A.B. Chandler (Versailles, Kentucky) District 4 —James W. Booth (St. Petersburg, Florida) District 5 —Dr. Charles B. Kern (Lafayette, Indiana) District 6 —John A. Saxton (New Orleans, Louisiana) District 7 —A.B. Walker (Houston, Texas) District 8 —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) District 9 —John Courtney (St. Paul, Minnesota) District 10 —S.P. Meseraull (Kansas City, Kansas) District 11 —E.H. Wenzel (Wauwatosa, Wisconsin) District 12 —F.D. Zimmerman (Denver, Colorado) District 13 —Charles B. DeMille (Seattle, Washington) District 14 —William R. Marshall (Los Angeles, California) District 15 —William Hines (Toronto, Ontario) District 16 —Dr. Wade Atkinson (Washington, D.C.)
	Executive Committee: Leo F. Nohl C. Edd Hall Hal Thurston Nicolas F. Nolan Dr. Charles B. Kern, Governor (Lafayette, Indiana) Harlington Wood, Governor (Springfield, Illinois)	


<u>1926-1927</u>		
 <p><i>Oscar A. Smith</i></p>	Officers: President —Oscar A. Smith (Los Angeles, California) 1st Vice President —Nicolas F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio) 2nd Vice President —Paul W. Gibbons (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) 3rd Vice President —A.B. Walker (Houston, Texas) 4th Vice President —E. Foster Chappell (Toronto, Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri)	District Governors: District 1 —John Woodbury (Haverhill, Massachusetts) District 2 —Douglas Wood (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania) District 3 —A.B. Chandler (Versailles, Kentucky) District 4 —James W. Booth (St. Petersburg, Florida) District 5 —Dr. Charles B. Kern (Lafayette, Indiana) District 6 —Willis B. Boyd (Johnson City, Tennessee) District 7 —Asbury Endacott (Tulsa, Oklahoma) District 8 —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) District 9 —John Courtney (St. Paul, Minnesota) District 10 —S.P. Meseraull (Kansas City, Kansas) District 11 —E.H. Wenzel (Wauwatosa, Wisconsin) District 12 —F.D. Zimmerman (Denver, Colorado) District 13 —Charles B. DeMille (Seattle, Washington) District 14 —Holmes A. Sperb, (San Francisco, California) District 15 —William Hines (Toronto, Ontario) District 16 —G.E.S. Williams (Washington, D.C.)
	Executive Committee: Oscar A. Smith Leo F. Nohl, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) Nicolas F. Nolan Paul W. Gibbons Holmes A. Sperb, Governor (San Francisco, California) A.B. Chandler, Governor (Versailles, Kentucky) Harlington Wood, Governor (Springfield, Illinois)	


<u>1927-1928</u>		
 <p><i>C. Edd Hall</i></p>	Officers: President —C. Edd Hall (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) 1st Vice President —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) 2nd Vice President —Paul W. Gibbons (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) 3rd Vice President —E. Foster Chappell (Toronto, Ontario) 4th Vice President —Albert A. Adams (Chattanooga, Tennessee) Secretary-Treasurer —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri)	District Governors: District 1 —John Woodbury (Haverhill, Massachusetts) District 2 —Charles C. Orangers (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) District 3 —Harry Willing (Covington, Kentucky) District 4 —James W. Booth (St. Petersburg, Florida) District 5 —David E. Roberts (Detroit, Michigan) District 6 —Willis B. Boyd (Johnson City, Tennessee) District 7 —Bert King (Wichita Falls, Texas) District 8 —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) District 9 —George E. Morton, Milwaukee, Wisconsin District 10 —Dan W. Hayes (Lincoln Nebraska) District 11 —E.H. Wenzel (Wauwatosa, Wisconsin) District 12 —F.D. Zimmerman (Denver, Colorado) District 13 —Charles B. DeMille (Seattle, Washington) District 14 —Holmes A. Sperb, (San Francisco, California) District 15 —E. Foster Chappell (Toronto, Ontario) District 16 —G.E.S. Williams (Washington, D.C.) District 17 —Gual V. Pelton (Edmonton, Alberta)
	Executive Committee: C. Edd Hall Oscar Smith, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Los Angeles, California) Paul W. Gibbons Harlington Wood Dan W. Hayes, Governor (Lincoln Nebraska) (<i>appointed January 1928 to replace F.D. Zimmerman, deceased</i>) Bert King, Governor (Wichita Falls, Texas) Willis B. Boyd, Governor (Johnson City, Tennessee)	


<u>1928-1929</u>		
	Officers: President —Harlington Wood (Springfield, Illinois) 1st Vice President —Walter J. Pray (Indianapolis, Indiana) 2nd Vice President —Paul W. Gibbons (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) 3rd Vice President —Warren B. Bovard (Los Angeles, California) 4th Vice President —Asbury Endicott (Tulsa, Oklahoma) Secretary-Treasurer —Thomas B. Elliott (St. Louis, Missouri) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)(<i>appointed September 1928</i>)	Executive Committee: Harlington Wood C. Edd Hall, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) Walter J. Pray Holmes A. Sperb, Governor (San Francisco, California) W.D. Paul Farthing, Governor (East St. Louis, Illinois) Dan W. Hayes, Governor (Lincoln Nebraska) Bert King, Governor (Wichita Falls, Texas)
	<i>Harlington Wood</i>	


<u>1929-1930</u>		
	Officers: President —Nicholas F. Nolan (Dayton, Ohio)	Executive Committee: Nicholas F. Nolan Harlington Wood, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Springfield, Illinois) W.D. Paul Farthing Holmes A. Sperb, Governor (San Francisco, California) C.C. Atwell, Governor (Columbus, Ohio) Kenneth A. Barker, Governor (Louisville, Kentucky) Harry D. Anderson, Governor (Syracuse, New York) Walter J. Pray, Governor (Indianapolis, Indiana)
	Vice Presidents: W.D. Paul Farthing (East St. Louis, Illinois) Dan W. Hayes (Lincoln, Nebraska) Warren B. Bovard (Los Angeles, California) Frank M. Peirce (Washington, D.C.) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>Nicholas F. Nolan</i>		


<u>1930-1931</u>		
	Officers: President —Robert J. Sutherland (Madison, Wisconsin)	Executive Committee: Robert J. Sutherland Nicholas F. Nolan, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Dayton, Ohio) Milton Schaffner Holmes A. Sperb C.C. Atwell, Governor (Columbus, Ohio) Leon Jourlmon, Governor (Knoxville, Tennessee) Damon E. Williams, Governor (Kansas City, Missouri)
	Vice Presidents: Kenneth A. Barker (Louisville, Kentucky) Milton Schaffner (Erie, Pennsylvania) Judge E.S. Matthias (Columbus, Ohio) Holmes A. Sperb (San Francisco, California) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>Robert J. Sutherland</i>		

<u>1931-1932</u>		
	Officers: President —Holmes A. Sperb (San Francisco, California)	Executive Committee: Holmes A. Sperb Robert J. Sutherland, Immediate Past President Honorary Member (Madison, Wisconsin) C.C. Atwell David W. Onan Damon E. Williams Dr. Seth P. Smith, Governor (St. Louis, Missouri) Walter C. Wagner, Governor (Louisville, Kentucky)
	Vice Presidents: C.C. Atwell (Columbus, Ohio) Gordon B. Jackson (Toronto, Ontario) David W. Onan (Minneapolis, Minnesota) Damon E. Williams (Kansas City, Missouri) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>Holmes A. Sperb</i>		

1932-1933		
	Officers:	Executive Committee:
	President —David W. Onan (Minneapolis, Minnesota)	David W. Onan Holmes A. Sperb, Immediate Past President (San Francisco, California) Robert J. Sutherland, Past President (Madison, Wisconsin) V. Ernest Field, Governor (Indianapolis, Indiana) Merrit M. Ranstead, Governor (Chicago, Illinois) Walter C. Wagner, Governor (Louisville, Kentucky) William R. Johnson, Governor (Denver, Colorado)
	Vice Presidents: Jeff Barnette (Houston, Texas) Henry Schaffert (Washington, D.C.) Sam B. Ferris (Edmonton, Alberta) Maurice M. Walsh (Birmingham, Alabama) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
David W. Onan		

1933-1934		
	Officers:	Executive Committee: V. Ernest Field David W. Onan, Immediate Past President (Minneapolis, Minnesota) Holmes A. Sperb, Past President (San Francisco, California) Walter C. Wagner Orrin L. Edwards, Governor (Minneapolis, Minnesota) Will J. French, Governor (Topeka, Kansas) John G. Swope, Governor (San Antonio, Texas)
	President —V. Ernest Field (Indianapolis, Indiana)	
	Vice Presidents: James Booth (St. Petersburg, Florida) George R. Dane (Toronto, Ontario) Theodore F. Peirce (Los Angeles, California) Walter C. Wagner (Louisville, Kentucky) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
V. Ernest Field		

1934-1935		
	Officers:	Executive Committee:
	President —Henry Schaffert (Washington, D.C.)	Henry Schaffert V. Ernest Field, Immediate Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana) David W. Onan, Past President (Minneapolis, Minnesota) John A. Henderson, Governor (Toronto, Ontario) Dr. Ralph H. Monger, Governor (Knoxville, Tennessee) Arthur C. Stock, Governor (Dayton, Ohio) John G. Swope, Governor (San Antonio, Texas)
	Vice Presidents: J.C. Frederick (Detroit, Michigan) Will J. French (Topeka, Kansas) Dr. H.D. Pearson (Erie, Pennsylvania) Dr. F. Fern Petty (Los Angeles, California) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
Henry Schaffert		

1935-1936		
	Officers:	Executive Committee: Walter J. Pray Henry Schaffert, Immediate Past President (Washington, D.C.) V. Ernest Field, Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana) Orrin L. Edwards Earl G. Stanza Walter Wagner Arthur C. Stock, Governor (Dayton, Ohio)
	President —Walter J. Pray (Indianapolis, Indiana)	
	Vice Presidents: Orrin L. Edwards, (Minneapolis, Minnesota) Earl G. Stanza (St. Louis, Missouri) John G. Swope (San Antonio, Texas) Walter C. Wagner (Louisville, Kentucky) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
Walter J. Pray		

1936-1937



Earl G. Stanza

Officers:

President—Earl G. Stanza (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Clarence H. McClean (Kansas City, Missouri)
Dr. Ralph H. Monger (Knoxville, Tennessee)
Donald M. Samson (Yakima, Washington)
William J. Tamblyn (Toronto, Ontario)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

Executive Committee:

Earl G. Stanza
Walter J. Pray, Immediate Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Henry Schaffert, Past President (Washington, D.C.)
Clarence H. McClean
Dr. Ralph H. Monger
William J. Tamblyn
Thomas F. O'Keefe, Governor (Detroit, Michigan)

1937-1938



William J. Tamblyn

Officers:

President—William J. Tamblyn (Toronto, Ontario)

Vice Presidents:

Solon R. Featherston (Wichita, Kansas)
Thomas F. O'Keefe (Detroit, Michigan)
Ravee Norris (Richmond, Virginia)
Theodore F. Peirce (Los Angeles, California)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

Executive Committee:

William J. Tamblyn
Earl G. Stanza, Immediate Past President (St. Louis, Missouri)
Walter J. Pray, Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Solon R. Featherston
Ravee Norris
Thomas F. O'Keefe
Theodore F. Peirce

1938-1939



Dr. F. Fern Petty

Officers:

President—Dr. F. Fern Petty (Los Angeles, California)

Vice Presidents:

Emile O. Bloche (Oak Park, Illinois)
Thomas F. O'Keefe (Detroit, Michigan)
T. Howard Price (Towson, Maryland)
Frank A. Scharlott (St. Louis, Missouri)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

1939-1940



Thomas F. O'Keefe

Officers:


President—Thomas F. O'Keefe (Detroit, Michigan)


Vice Presidents:


Eldon S. Dummitt (Lexington, Kentucky)
John N. Free (Wichita, Kansas)
Leslie G. Pepperle (Springfield, Illinois)
Robert C. Pepper (Ft. Worth, Texas)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)


Executive Committee:

Thomas F. O'Keefe
Dr. F. Fern Petty, Immediate Past President (Los Angeles, California)
William J. Tamblyn, Past President (Toronto, Ontario)
Eldon S. Dummitt
John N. Free
Leslie G. Pepperle
Robert C. Pepper

1940-1941		
	Officers:	Executive Committee:
	President —John N. Free (Wichita, Kansas)	John N. Free Thomas F. O’Keefe, Immediate Past President (Detroit, Michigan) Dr. F. Fern Petty, Past President (Los Angeles, California) Eldon S. Dummitt Harry P. Stuth Earl Griffiths, Governor (Montclair, New Jersey) Dr. Gordon H. Ira, Governor (Jacksonville, Florida)
	Vice Presidents: Eldon S. Dummitt (Lexington, Kentucky) Percy P. McCallum (Windsor, Ontario) Lee A. Rose (Los Angeles, California) Harry P. Stuth (Corpus Christi, Texas) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
John N. Free		

1941-1942		
	Officers:	Executive Committee:
	President —Eldon S. Dummitt (Lexington, Kentucky)	Eldon S. Dummitt John N. Free, Immediate Past President (Wichita, Kansas) Thomas F. O’Keefe, Past President (Detroit, Michigan) R. Carter Tucker Dr. Joseph J. Granata, Governor (Beaumont, Texas) Ralph E. Hendee, Governor (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Cyrus D. McCarron, Governor (Santa Monica, California)
	Vice Presidents: Edwin E. Bibb (Norfolk, Virginia) William Rapp (Morton, Illinois) R. Carter Tucker (Kansas City, Missouri) G.K. Walters (Knoxville, Tennessee) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
Eldon S. Dummitt		

1942-1943		
	Officers:	Executive Committee: R. Carter Tucker Eldon S. Dummitt, Immediate Past President (Lexington, Kentucky) John N. Free, Past President (Wichita, Kansas) Lucien L. Renuart W.D. Paul Farthing Dr. Joseph W. Seay, Governor (Trenton, New Jersey) Lloyd M. Dalglish, Governor (London, Ontario)
	President —R. Carter Tucker (Kansas City, Missouri)	
	Vice Presidents: Carl C. Donagh (Portland, Oregon) W.D. Paul Farthing (Belleville, Illinois) Robert W. Newlon (Columbus, Ohio) Lucien L. Renuart (Miami, Florida) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>R. Carter Tucker</i>		

1943-1944		
	Officers: President —Theodore F. Peirce (Los Angeles, California)	Executive Committee: Theodore F. Peirce R. Carter Tucker, Immediate Past President (Kansas City, Missouri) Eldon S. Dummitt, Past President (Lexington, Kentucky) Bert E. Miller Dr. Joseph W. Seay Emery Dennis, Governor (San Antonio, Texas) Paul Wickham, Governor (Montreal, Quebec)
	Vice Presidents: Lloyd M. Dalglish (London, Ontario) Julian S. Fleming (Louisville, Kentucky) Bert E. Miller (Madison, Wisconsin) Dr. Joseph W. Seay (Pennington, New Jersey) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
	<i>Theodore F. Peirce</i>	

1944-1945



Dr. Joseph W. Seay

Officers:

President—Dr. Joseph W. Seay (Pennington, New Jersey)

Vice Presidents:

Louis H. Grettenberger (Grand Rapids, Michigan)
A.S. Hull (Austin, Texas)
Harry H. Loomis (Jeffersonville, Indiana)
J. Benton Webb (Washington, D.C.)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

Executive Committee:

Dr. Joseph W. Seay
Theodore F. Peirce, Immediate Past President (Los Angeles, California)
R. Carter Tucker, Past President (Kansas City, Missouri)
A.S. Hull
J. Benton Webb
Raymond H. Fryberger, Governor (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
Willis S. Young, Governor (Lexington, Kentucky)

1945-1946



Carl C. Donaugh

Officers:

President—Carl C. Donaugh (Portland, Oregon)

Vice Presidents:

Earle C. Dahlem (San Francisco, California)
Raymond H. Fryberger (Minneapolis, Minnesota)
Alvah S. Phillips (Wilmington, Delaware)
William H. Pierce (Dallas, Texas)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

Executive Committee:

Carl C. Donaugh
Dr. Joseph W. Seay, Immediate Past President (Pennington, New Jersey)
Theodore F. Peirce, Past President (Los Angeles, California)
Raymond H. Fryberger
William H. Pierce
Charles G. Klapheke, Governor (Louisville, Kentucky)
Frank L. Mallory, Governor (Windsor, Ontario)

1946-1947



William H. Pierce

Officers:

President—William H. Pierce (Dallas, Texas)

Vice Presidents:

Charles G. Klapheke (Louisville, Kentucky)
Lucien L. Renuart (Miami, Florida)
H.L. Scott (Corpus Christi, Texas)
Charles W. Snyder (Detroit, Michigan)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)

Executive Committee:

William H. Pierce
Carl C. Donaugh, Immediate Past President (Portland, Oregon)
Dr. Joseph W. Seay, Past President (Pennington, New Jersey)
Charles G. Klapheke
Lucien L. Renuart
H.L. Scott
Charles W. Snyder
Gunn Huffsmith, Governor (Denver, Colorado)
George A. Thomson, Governor (Memphis, Tennessee)

1947-1948



Lucien L. Renuart

Officers:


President—Lucien L. Renuart (Miami, Florida)


Vice Presidents:


William W. Smythe (Welland, Ontario)
C. Milton Morris (Denver, Colorado)
Franklin A. Steinko (Washington, D.C.)
Cyrus D. McCarron (Santa Monica, California)
Secretary-Treasurer—Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)


Executive Committee:


Lucien L. Renuart
William H. Pierce, Immediate Past President (Dallas, Texas)
Carl C. Donaugh, Past President (Portland, Oregon)
C. Milton Morris
William W. Smythe
Franklin A. Steinko
Cyrus D. McCarron
Ed E. DeWees, Governor (San Antonio, Texas)
W.A. Grant, Governor (London, Ontario)


1948-1949		
 <i>C. Milton Morris</i>	Officers: President —C. Milton Morris (Denver, Colorado)	Executive Committee: C. Milton Morris Lucien L. Renuart, Immediate Past President (Miami, Florida) William H. Pierce, Past President (Dallas, Texas) Worth W. Caldwell J. Warren Day Charles H. Sharrick Warren L. Stewart George O. Browne, Governor (Indianapolis, Indiana) George J. Fella, Governor (Charlotte, North Carolina)
	Vice Presidents: Worth W. Caldwell (Portland, Oregon) J. Warren Day (Fort Worth, Texas) Charles H. Sharrick (Lincoln, Nebraska) Warren L. Stewart (Sharpsville, Pennsylvania) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	


1949-1950		
	Officers:	Executive Committee: Franklin A. Steinko C. Milton Morris, Immediate Past President (Denver, Colorado) Lucien L. Renuart, Past President (Miami, Florida) George O. Browne Frank L. Mallory Dr. Elton C. Spires George A. Thomson Cornelius G. Coughlin, Governor (Erie, Pennsylvania) Charles A. Shaw, Governor (Atlanta, Georgia)
	President —Franklin A. Steinko (Washington, D.C.)	
	Vice Presidents: George O. Browne (Indianapolis, Indiana) Frank L. Mallory (Windsor, Ontario) Dr. Elton C. Spires (San Pedro, California) George A. Thomson (Memphis, Tennessee) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
Franklin A. Steinko		


1950-1951		
	Officers:	Executive Committee:
	President —George O. Browne (Indianapolis, Indiana)	George O. Browne Franklin A. Steinko, Immediate Past President (Washington, D.C.) C. Milton Morris, Past President (Denver, Colorado) Lawrence J. Gibbons Roly P. Nall Ralph Stephenson Ray S. Watt Bernard G. Bell, Governor (Vancouver, Washington) Jack Valero, Governor (Tampa, Florida)
	Vice Presidents: Lawrence J. Gibbons (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Roly P. Nall (Los Angeles, California) Ralph Stephenson (Moline, Illinois) Ray S. Watt (El Paso, Texas) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
George O. Browne		





<u>1951-1952</u>		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	President —Roly P. Nall (Los Angeles, California)	Roly P. Nall George O. Browne, Immediate Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana) Franklin A. Steinko, Past President (Washington, D.C.) Lawrence J. Gibbons Leo C. Lommel Ralph Stephenson Donald J. Twiss, M.D. Joseph A. Peters (East St. Louis, Illinois) Jack Valero (Tampa, Florida) Maurice M. Walsh (Birmingham, Alabama)
	Vice Presidents: Lawrence J. Gibbons (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Leo C. Lommel (Portland, Oregon) Ralph Stephenson (Moline, Illinois) Donald J. Twiss, M.D. (Brantford, Ontario) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>Roly P. Nall</i>		


1952-1953		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	President —J. Warren Day (Fort Worth, Texas)	J. Warren Day Roly P. Nall, Immediate Past President (Los Angeles, California) George O. Browne, Past President (Indianapolis, Indiana) C. Lease Bussard Ralph E. Finney Maurice Perkins Walter A. Reiling, M.D. George W. Haycock (Arlington, New Jersey) John S. Kelly (Kansas City, Kansas) Charles A. Shaw (Atlanta, Georgia)
	Vice Presidents: C. Lease Bussard (Frederick, Maryland) Ralph E. Finney (Denver, Colorado) Maurice Perkins (Louisville, Kentucky) Walter A. Reiling, M.D. (Dayton, Ohio) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)	
J. Warren Day		


1953-1954		
	Officers:	Board of Directors: Walter A. Reiling, M.D. J. Warren Day, Immediate Past President (Fort Worth, Texas) Roly P. Nall, Past President (Los Angeles, California) Lysle E. Fesler Van W. Haverton Harold M. Owen Edward J. Stolle Lloyd M. Dalglish (London, Ontario) Foster McCarl Jr. (Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania) J. Harold Wilkins (Memphis, Tennessee) Gene D. Worl (Hagerstown, Indiana)
	President —Walter A. Reiling, M.D. (Dayton, Ohio)	
	Vice Presidents: Lysle E. Fesler (Miami Beach, Florida) Van W. Haverton (Peoria, Illinois) Harold M. Owen (Battle Creek, Michigan) Edward J. Stolle (San Antonio, Texas) Secretary-Treasurer —Russell F. Meyer (St. Louis, Missouri)(<i>to December 1953</i>) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)(<i>appointed May 1954</i>)	
Walter A. Reiling, M.D.		


<u>1954-1955</u>		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	President —Maurice Perkins (Louisville, Kentucky)	
	Vice Presidents:	
	Leslie M. Holtz (Glendale, California) Lee I. Ihle (Knoxville, Tennessee) Nicholas C. Mueller (Baltimore, Maryland) William T. Tate (Dallas, Texas) Francis J. Nash, M.D. (Kansas City, Kansas) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	Maurice Perkins Walter A. Reiling, M.D., Immediate Past President (Dayton, Ohio) J. Warren Day, Past President (Fort Worth, Texas) Leslie M. Holtz Lee I. Ihle Nicholas C. Mueller William T. Tate Francis J. Nash, M.D. Clark P. Oxley (San Francisco, California) Melvin C. Reppen (Madison, Wisconsin) Donald J. Twiss, M.D. (Brantford, Ontario)
<i>Maurice Perkins</i>		


1955-1956		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	<p>President—Donald J. Twiss, M.D. (Brantford, Ontario)</p> <p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Charles T. Boyle (Richardson, Texas) R.A. Harp (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) Francis J. Nash, M.D. (Kansas City, Kansas) Richard F. Nazette (Cedar Rapids, Iowa) Secretary-Treasurer—Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)</p>	<p>Donald J. Twiss, M.D. Maurice Perkins, Immediate Past President (Louisville, Kentucky) Walter A. Reiling, M.D., Past President (Dayton, Ohio) Charles T. Boyle R.A. Harp Francis J. Nash, M.D. Richard F. Nazette Ralph B. Bell, D.D.S. (Washington, D.C.) Harold W. Copeland (Boulder, Colorado) Neil V. German (Calgary, Alberta) John W. Whatley (Atlanta, Georgia)</p>
Donald J. Twiss		


1956-1957		
 <i>C. Lease Bussard</i>	Officers: President —C. Lease Bussard (Frederick, Maryland)	Board of Directors: C. Lease Bussard Donald J. Twiss, M.D., Immediate Past President (Brantford, Ontario) Maurice Perkins, Past President (Louisville, Kentucky) Harold W. Brand Neil V. German William E. Laswell J. Harold Wilkins Clarence J. April (Ann Arbor, Michigan) Charles E. Compton (Burbank, California) Harry Naylor (Clearwater, Florida) Edward A. Oppermann (Wichita, Kansas)
	Vice Presidents: Harold W. Brand (Houston, Texas) Neil V. German (Calgary, Alberta) William E. Laswell (Evansville, Indiana) J. Harold Wilkins (Memphis, Tennessee) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
1957-1958		
 <i>Harold W. Brand</i>	Officers: President —Harold W. Brand (Houston, Texas)	Board of Directors: Harold W. Brand C. Lease Bussard, Immediate Past President (Frederick, Maryland) Donald J. Twiss, M.D., Past President (Brantford, Ontario) Jack O. Creasy P.H. Frans S. Phil McCardwell Phil D. McHugh E. Wendell Aske (Shelburne, Vermont) C.E. Gustafson (Austin, Texas) John P. Harkins (Jackson, Mississippi) Edwin P. Romanoski (Tucson, Arizona)
	Vice Presidents: Jack O. Creasy (Columbia, Missouri) P.H. Frans (Holland, Michigan) S. Phil McCardwell (Louisville, Kentucky) Phil D. McHugh (Los Angeles, California) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
1958-1959		
 <i>J. Harold Wilkins</i>	Officers: President —J. Harold Wilkins (Memphis, Tennessee)	Board of Directors: J. Harold Wilkins Harold W. Brand, Immediate Past President (Houston, Texas) C. Lease Bussard, Past President (Frederick, Maryland) Verlon Burrell Lee E. Dodge Sr. John M. Grimland Jr. Harold U. Mumma Hugh H. Cranford (Charlotte, North Carolina) John W. Oakie (Edmonton, Alberta) Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D. (Iowa City, Iowa) Walter H. Sebastian (Lexington, Kentucky)
	Vice Presidents: Verlon Burrell (Dania, Florida) Lee E. Dodge Sr. (Denver, Colorado) John M. Grimland Jr. (Midland, Texas) Harold U. Mumma (Lancaster, Pennsylvania) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
1959-1960		
 <i>Nicholas C. Mueller</i>	Officers: President —Nicholas C. Mueller (Baltimore, Maryland)	Board of Directors: Nicholas C. Mueller Bernard B. Burford J. Harold Wilkins, Immediate Past President (Memphis, Tennessee) Harold W. Brand, Past President (Houston, Texas) Ferguson Bell George Cobley, M.D. John R. Olvey Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D. John M. Aylen (Montreal, Quebec) Walter J. Baum (Sunnyvale, California) Walter A. Heimsch (Dayton, Ohio) William R. Smith Sr. (Shreveport, Louisiana)
	Vice Presidents: Ferguson Bell (Kansas City, Missouri) George Cobley, M.D. (Santa Monica, California) John R. Olvey (Plainfield, Indiana) Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D. (Iowa City, Iowa) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	


1960-1961		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	President —John W. Whatley (Atlanta, Georgia)	John W. Whatley Benard B. Buford Nicholas C. Mueller, Immediate Past President (Baltimore, Maryland) J. Harold Wilkins, Past President (Memphis, Tennessee) Morris Cloninger Walter H. Sebastian John M. Seidel Frank L. Smith Jr. Robert A. Brenholtz (Coatesville, Pennsylvania) Irl C. Clary, D.D.S. (Oswego, Oregon) Harold E. Loyns (Winnipeg, Manitoba) Alfred G. Waffle (Moline, Illinois)
	Vice Presidents:	
	Morris Cloninger (Beaumont, Texas) Walter H. Sebastian (Lexington, Kentucky) John M. Seidel (Columbus, Ohio) Frank L. Smith Jr. (Lenoir, North Carolina) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
John W. Whatley		


<u>1961-1962</u>		
	Officers: President —Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D. (Iowa City, Iowa)	Board of Directors: Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D. Benard B. Buford John W. Whatley, Immediate Past President (Atlanta, Georgia) Nicholas C. Mueller, Past President (Baltimore, Maryland) Frank Baker W. Arnold Chambers Gene H. Sternberg Ray L. Tillery Hugh Crochetiere (Montreal, Quebec) Foster McCarl Sr. (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) Smith D. Miner (Ontario, California) William R. Newhouse (Madison, Wisconsin)
	Vice Presidents: Frank Baker (Austin, Texas) W. Arnold Chambers (Chattanooga, Tennessee) Gene H. Sternberg (Granite City, Illinois) Ray L. Tillery (Denver, Colorado) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
<i>Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D.</i>		


1962-1963		
	Officers:	Board of Directors:
	President —John M. Grimland Jr. (Midland, Texas)	
	Vice Presidents:	
	Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S. (Albemarle, North Carolina) William R. Newhouse (Madison, Wisconsin) Phillip R. Reemes (Pine Bluff, Arkansas) Thomas A. Steele (Calgary, Alberta) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
John M. Grimland Jr.		

<u>1963-1964</u>		
	Officers: President —George Coble, M.D. (Santa Monica, California)	Board of Directors: George Coble, M.D. Benard B. Buford John M. Grimland Jr., Immediate Past President (Midland, Texas) Raymond R. Rembolt, M.D., Past President (Iowa City, Iowa) Levin H. Farmer Thomas L. Roof James W. Tackett Victor R. Zahn Dee L. Hopwood (Denver, Colorado) Alfred E. Percival (Ottawa, Ontario) S. Hunter Rentz, M.D. (Columbia, South Carolina) Robert W. Sloan (Manhattan, Kansas)
	Vice Presidents: Levin H. Farmer (Jackson, Mississippi) Thomas L. Roof (Tucson, Arizona) James W. Tackett (Muskogee, Oklahoma) Victor R. Zahn (Clifton, New Jersey) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
George Coble, M.D.		

1964-1965		
	Officers: President —Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S. (Albemarle, North Carolina)	Board of Directors: Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S. Benard B. Buford George Cobley, M.D., Immediate Past President (Santa Monica, California) John M. Grimland Jr., Past President (Midland, Texas) Dee L. Hopwood Lysle Kindig Robert H. Leonard A. Milton Radesky William S. Dickinson Jr. (Concord, California) Jack W. Quick (Louisville, Kentucky) Norman L. Shipley (St. Catharines, Ontario) Raymond F. Wilhelm, O.D. (Fort Wayne, Indiana)
	Vice Presidents: Dee L. Hopwood (Denver, Colorado) Lysle Kindig (Kansas City, Missouri) Robert H. Leonard (Knoxville, Tennessee) A. Milton Radesky (Baltimore, Maryland) Secretary-Treasurer —Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)	
Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S.		

1965-1966		
	Officers/Board of Directors:	Vice Presidents:
	<p>President—John R. Olvey (Plainfield, Indiana)</p> <p>President-Elect—Robert H. Leonard (Knoxville, Tennessee)</p> <p>Immediate Past President—Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S. (Albemarle, North Carolina)</p> <p>Past President—George Cobley, M.D. (Santa Monica, California)</p> <p>Secretary-Treasurer—Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)</p>	<p>Edwin L. Abbott (Ypsilanti, Michigan)</p> <p>Robert M. Heidbrink (Minneapolis, Minnesota)</p> <p>Jack W. Quick (Louisville, Kentucky)</p> <p>Robert D. Rowe (Great Falls, Montana)</p> <p>Norman L. Shipley (St. Catharines, Ontario)</p> <p>Robert W. Sloan (Manhattan, Kansas)</p> <p>Thomas J. Terputac (Washington, Pennsylvania)</p> <p>Alfred A. Valdez (Albuquerque, New Mexico)</p>
<i>John R. Olvey</i>		

1966-1967		
	Officers/Board of Directors:	Vice Presidents:
	<p>President—Robert H. Leonard (Knoxville, Tennessee)</p> <p>President-Elect—William R. Newhouse, Madison, Wisconsin</p> <p>Immediate Past President—John R. Olvey (Plainfield, Indiana)</p> <p>Past President—Carl L. Bowen, D.D.S. (Albemarle, North Carolina)</p> <p>Executive Secretary—Bernard B. Burford (St. Louis, Missouri)(<i>died July 13, 1966</i>); Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)(<i>appointed Jan. 1, 1967</i>)</p>	<p>Charles C. Campbell (Little Rock, Arkansas)</p> <p>Dean F. Ferris (Youngstown, Ohio)</p> <p>Ralph Glasscock (Clinton, Missouri)</p> <p>Monroe Marlowe (Pasadena, California)</p> <p>T.C. Parker (Houston, Texas)</p> <p>Alfred E. Percival (Ottawa, Ontario)</p> <p>S. Hunter Rentz, M.D. (Columbia, South Carolina)</p> <p>Charles L. Temple (Denver, Colorado)</p>
Robert H. Leonard		

<u>1967-1968</u>		
	Officers/Board of Directors:	Vice Presidents:
	<p>President—William R. Newhouse (Madison, Wisconsin)</p> <p>President-Elect—Gene H. Sternberg Sr. (Granite City, Illinois)</p> <p>Immediate Past President—Robert H. Leonard (Knoxville, Tennessee)</p> <p>Past President—John R. Olvey (Plainfield, Indiana)</p> <p>Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)</p>	<p>William E. Chitty (Norfolk, Virginia)</p> <p>Phil E. Connell (Iowa City, Iowa)</p> <p>Walter G. Cook (Ft. Worth, Texas)</p> <p>Daniel W. Ford (St. Petersburg, Florida)</p> <p>Alford O. Leffler (Tempe, Arizona)</p> <p>Richard S. McAnany (Shawnee, Kansas)</p> <p>Malcolm McDonald (Oakville, Ontario)</p> <p>Ronald E. Thompson (Tacoma, Washington)</p>
<i>William R. Newhouse</i>		

1968-1969



Gene H. Sternberg Sr.

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Gene H. Sternberg Sr. (Granite City, Illinois)
President-Elect—Monroe Marlowe (Van Nuys, California)
Immediate Past President—William R. Newhouse (Madison, Wisconsin)
Past President—Robert H. Leonard (Knoxville, Tennessee)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Roland E. Bradley (Gastonia, North Carolina)
Mark H. Brooks (Oak Park, Illinois)
Hal B. Coleman (Clayton, Missouri)
Patrick L. Grady (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Harold E. Loyns (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
Dick R. Morrow (Denton, Texas)
James B. Pretz, M.D. (Kansas City, Kansas)
Vincent H. Simpson (Pacific Palisades, California)

1969-1970



Monroe Marlowe

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Monroe Marlowe (Van Nuys, California)
President-Elect—Charles C. Campbell (Little Rock, Arkansas)
Immediate Past President—Gene H. Sternberg Sr. (Granite City, Illinois)
Past President—William R. Newhouse (Madison, Wisconsin)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Don L. Arnwine (Denver, Colorado)
Don W. Beal (Santa Rosa, California)
Terrence M. Cassaday (Burlington, Ontario)
Patrick L. Crooks (Wausau, Wisconsin)
Thomas M. Hill (San Antonio, Texas)
Maurice F. Keathley Jr. (Memphis, Tennessee)
Larrie H. Mason, M.D. (Boise, Idaho)
W.B. Perry Jr. (East Point, Georgia)

1970-1971



Charles C. Campbell

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Charles C. Campbell (Little Rock, Arkansas)
President-Elect—Norman L. Shipley (Union, Ontario)
Immediate Past President—Monroe Marlowe (Van Nuys, California)
Past President—Gene H. Sternberg Sr. (Granite City, Illinois)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Reginald R. Brown, (Raleigh, North Carolina)
James E. Creed, D.V.M. (Fort Collins, Colorado)
Angelo P. Cupo (Clifton, New Jersey)
David J. Nolte (Madison, Wisconsin)
Robert F. Nordhoff (Baltimore, Maryland)
Benoit M. Parent (Ottawa, Ontario)
Roger M. Shaw (Hialeah, Florida)
Dudley D. Williams (San Diego, California)

1971-1972



Norman L. Shipley

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Norman L. Shipley (Union, Ontario)
President-Elect—S. Phil McCardwell (Louisville, Kentucky)
Immediate Past President—Charles C. Campbell (Little Rock, Arkansas)
Past President—Monroe Marlowe (Van Nuys, California)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Kenneth C. Emery (San Antonio, Texas)
Otis T. Gray (Memphis, Tennessee)
William H. Gum (Dayton, Ohio)
Richard F. Price (Phoenix, Maryland)
M. Rudy Radofsky (West Covina, California)
L. Alton Riggs Jr. (Mesa, Arizona)
Roger A. Teekell, Ph.D. (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)

1972-1973



S. Phil McCardwell

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—S. Phil McCardwell (Louisville, Kentucky)
President-Elect—Ronald E. Thompson (Tacoma, Washington)
Immediate Past President—Norman L. Shipley (Union, Ontario)
Past President—Charles C. Campbell (Little Rock, Arkansas)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Phil Baker Jr. (Houston, Texas)
John W. Beanland (San Francisco, California)
Thomas H. Chapman (Red Deer, Alberta)
Jack W. Fairall (El Paso, Texas)
Vernon D. Mitchell (Independence, Missouri)
Seymour Silverman (Miami Beach, Florida)
Milton A. Snyder (Upper Darby, Pennsylvania)
J. Bryan Willingham Jr. (Atlanta, Georgia)

1973-1974



Ronald E. Thompson

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Ronald E. Thompson (Tacoma, Washington)
President-Elect—Ralph Glasscock (Clinton, Missouri)
Immediate Past President—S. Phil McCardwell (Louisville, Kentucky)
Past President—Norman L. Shipley (Port Stanley, Ontario)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Lee O. Baker, Ph.D. (Kalamazoo, Michigan)
Benjamin L. Craig (Denver, Colorado)
W.L. Johnson (Jacksonville, Florida)
Clarence L. Kennedy (Madison, Wisconsin)
Peter J. Lombardi (Pasadena, Maryland)
William D. Mulinix (Midwest City, Oklahoma)
Morton H. Nemy (Winnipeg, Manitoba)
Bill J. Stewart (Kingsport, Tennessee)

1974-1975



Ralph Glasscock

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Ralph Glasscock (Clinton, Missouri)
President-Elect—Patrick L. Grady (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Immediate Past President—Ronald E. Thompson (Tacoma, Washington)
Past President—S. Phil McCardwell (Louisville, Kentucky)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Sam Bargamian (Tucson, Arizona)
Pierre G. Bouchard (St. Laurent, Quebec)
John B. Dodge, D.D.S. (Tacoma, Washington)
Donald J. Hand (San Antonio, Texas)
David M. Hudson (Richmond, Virginia)
Robert W. Lehman (Cedar Rapids, Iowa)
Art Long (Dayton, Ohio)
Robert H. Rogers Jr. (Shelby, North Carolina)

1975-1976



Patrick L. Grady

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Patrick L. Grady (Indianapolis, Indiana)
President-Elect—Richard S. McAnany (Shawnee, Kansas)
Immediate Past President—Ralph Glasscock (Clinton, Missouri)
Past President—Ronald E. Thompson (Tacoma, Washington)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

James E. Attarian (Sherman Oaks, California)
Jesse M. Cocker, Ed.D. (Monticello, Arkansas)
Arthur D. Derrough (St. Thomas, Ontario)
Truman M. Evans (Arlington, Texas)
John B. Lawrence (Ardmore, Oklahoma)
Victor P. Reim, Jr. (St. Paul, Minnesota)
Richard L. Stoeher (Lincoln, Nebraska)
James H. Yates (Phoenix, Maryland)

1976-1977



Richard S. McAnany

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Richard S. McAnany (Shawnee, Kansas)
President-Elect—Don L. Arnwine (Charleston, West Virginia)
Immediate Past President—Patrick L. Grady (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Past President—Ralph Glasscock (Clinton, Missouri)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Paul Bilger Jr. (Lutherville, Maryland)
Harold J. Bond (Bossier City, Louisiana)
Lester R. Craft (Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina)
William L. Ewers (Tucson, Arizona)
Lionel Grenier (Terrebonne, Quebec)
Charles L. Hoberty (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Gilbert L. Lorenz (St. Louis, Missouri)
Roy V. Proctor (Salem, Oregon)

1977-1978



Don L. Arnwine

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Don L. Arnwine (Charleston, West Virginia)
President-Elect—Dudley D. Williams (La Jolla, California)
Immediate Past President—Richard S. McAnany (Shawnee, Kansas)
Past President—Patrick L. Grady (Indianapolis, Indiana)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

A. Coy Dean (Alexander, Arkansas)
E. Noel Faddis (Pensacola, Florida)
Julian W. Johnson (Vienna, Virginia)
Kenneth E. Kile Sr. (Clinton, Tennessee)
Merlan L. Marting (Dubuque, Iowa)
Russel K. Osgood (Boulder, Colorado)
William B. Scott (Jeffersonville, Indiana)
Elmer Youck (Regina, Saskatchewan)

1978-1979



Dudley D. Williams

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Dudley D. Williams (La Jolla, California)
President-Elect—James E. Creed, D.V.M. (Fort Collins, Colorado)
Immediate Past President—Don L. Arnwine (Charleston, West Virginia)
Past President—Richard S. McAnany (Shawnee, Kansas)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

William R. Helms (Strongsville, Ohio)
Derald Isdell (Bolivar, Missouri)
Michael Magro Jr. (Havertown, Pennsylvania)
John D. Mahoney (Windsor, Ontario)
Ross R. Mathews (Hillsboro, Oregon)
John E. Renfro (Williamsburg, Kentucky)
Louie D. Ross (Golden, Colorado)
George A. Scott (Topeka, Kansas)

1979-1980



James E. Creed

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—James E. Creed, D.V.M. (Fort Collins, Colorado)
President-Elect—Lionel Grenier (Terrebonne, Quebec)
Immediate Past President—Dudley D. Williams (La Jolla, California)
Past President—Don L. Arnwine (Charleston, West Virginia)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

John L. Bilisoly (Baton Rouge, Louisiana)
James Eanes (Mundelein, Illinois)
Melvin J. Jordan (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)
Clifton I. Katz (Los Angeles, California)
Kenneth Loach (Scarborough, Ontario)
Jack G. Stroman (Silver City, New Mexico)
H.B. Stroup (Asheville, North Carolina)
Max A. Van Den Berg, D.C. (Kalamazoo, Michigan)

1980-1981



Lionel Grenier

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Lionel Grenier (Terrebonne, Quebec)
President-Elect—Seymour Silverman (Miami Beach, Florida)
Immediate Past President—Dudley D. Williams (La Jolla, California)
Past President—James E. Creed, D.V.M. (Fort Collins, Colorado)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

John N. Creswell (Douglassville, Pennsylvania)
Theodore A. Guida (Lakewood, Colorado)
J. Robert Martinez (Albuquerque, New Mexico)
Donald B. Mills (Richmond, Kentucky)
Donald K. Purdy (Council Bluffs, Iowa)
J. Wayne Smith (Independence, Missouri)
Robert J. Wahby, M.D. (Dorchester, Ontario)
John L. Ware (Conyers, Georgia)

1981-1982



Seymour Silverman

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Seymour Silverman (Miami Beach, Florida)
President-Elect—Donald E. Strub (Iowa City, Iowa)
Immediate Past President—Lionel Grenier (Terrebonne, Quebec)
Past President—Dudley D. Williams (La Jolla, California)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

George A. Bazaz (Northvale, New Jersey)
Clay E. Boyd Jr. (Johnson City, Tennessee)
Roy H. Dobbs (Helena, Alabama)
Thomas P. Frazier, D.D.S. (Dayton, Ohio)
Allen D. Johnson (Baytown, Texas)
Maurice Kemp (Palo Alto, California)
Charles J. Panuska (Dundalk, Maryland)
Fernand Rondeau (St. Hubert, Quebec)

1982-1983



Donald E. Strub

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Donald E. Strub (Iowa City, Iowa)
President-Elect—Donald J. Hand (San Antonio, Texas)
Immediate Past President—Seymour Silverman (Miami Beach, Florida)
Past President—Lionel Grenier (Terrebonne, Quebec)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

J.R. Berry (North Little Rock, Arkansas)
Clarence Duggins Jr. (Radcliff, Kentucky)
Sherman Jones (Kansas City, Kansas)
Stewart McLay (Sarnia, Ontario)
Joseph A. Mendoza (Buena Park, California)
Jean Mercier (Chambly, Quebec)
Kenneth E. Monschein (St. Louis, Missouri)
Gene Peugh (Las Cruces, New Mexico)

1983-1984



Donald J. Hand

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Donald J. Hand (San Antonio, Texas)
President-Elect—Ardyn J. Long (Dayton, Ohio)
Immediate Past President—Donald E. Strub (Iowa City, Iowa)
Past President—Seymour Silverman (Miami Beach, Florida)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Gary L. Aldridge (Carrollton, Georgia)
Michel Bourgeois (Bois-des-Filion, Quebec)
Kristian A. Eggum Jr. (Prince Albert, Saskatchewan)
William M. Fowler Jr. (Charlotte, North Carolina)
Robert F. Fretz (Denver, Colorado)
Clyde L. Kensinger (Topeka, Kansas)
Thomas A. Robeson (St. Paul, Minnesota)
J. Tate Thigpen, M.D. (Jackson, Mississippi)

1984-1985



Ardyn J. Long

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Ardyn J. Long (Dayton, Ohio)
President-Elect—James E. Attarian (Woodland Hills, California)
Immediate Past President—Donald J. Hand (San Antonio, Texas)
Past President—Donald E. Strub (Iowa City, Iowa)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Robert Amyot (LaSalle, Quebec)
Fred R. Apodaca (Omaha, Nebraska)
William G. "Jerry" Carter (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)
Frederick D. Clark (Boulder, Colorado)
Ronald W. Hochrine (Casa Grande, Arizona)
William O. Holder (Harrison, Tennessee)
Paul-Andre Parent (Gatineau, Quebec)
Douglas E.N. Wilson (Victoria, British Columbia)

1985-1986



James E. Attarian

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—James E. Attarian (Woodland Hills, California)
President-Elect—Lester R. Craft (Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina)
Immediate Past President—Ardyn J. Long (Dayton, Ohio)
Past President—Donald J. Hand (San Antonio, Texas)
Executive Secretary—Hugh H. Cranford (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

J.C. Boone Jr. (Albemarle, North Carolina)
Frank G. Catinella (Miami Lakes, Florida)
Michel Cloutier (Beauport, Quebec)
D. Glenn Jewison (Regina, Saskatchewan)
E.G. "Ellis" Leal (Houston, Texas)
Glenn D. Sparesus (Des Plaines, Illinois)
Ralph Waller (Fort Worth, Texas)
Al Yantis Jr. (Bossier City, Louisiana)

1986-1987



Lester R. Craft

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Lester R. Craft (Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina)
President-Elect—Kenneth G. Loach, (Scarborough, Ontario)
Immediate Past President—James E. Attarian (Woodland Hills, California)
Past President—Ardyn J. Long (Dayton, Ohio)
Executive Secretary—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Verlyn C. Gardner (Boulder, Colorado)
Fernand Grenier (Lac-Megantic, Quebec)
Allen L. Kidd (Richmond, Virginia)
Yvon Lewis (Montreal, Quebec)
David M. Mohler (Omaha, Nebraska)
John R. Reel (Plainfield, Indiana)
Samuel N. Saenz (Katy, Texas)
Donald J. Wooten (El Paso, Texas)

1987-1988



Kenneth G. Loach

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Kenneth G. Loach, (Scarborough, Ontario)
President-Elect—Fernand Rondeau (Montreal, Quebec)
Immediate Past President—Lester R. Craft (Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina)
Past President—James E. Attarian (Woodland Hills, California)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Ralph H. Dougherty (Charlotte, North Carolina)
Robert J. Folsom (Spokane, Washington)
Real Forest (Mascouche, Quebec)
Carroll Gant (Fort Worth, Texas)
Julio Giovinco (Tampa, Florida)
Steven D. Gorrell (Derby, Kansas)
James H. Hubbard (Severna Park, Maryland)
Paul Labelle (Hawkesbury, Ontario)
Henry J. Rockstroh (San Antonio, Texas)
Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)

1988-1989



Fernand Rondeau

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Fernand Rondeau (Montreal, Quebec)
President-Elect—Kenneth E. Monschein (St. Louis, Missouri)
Immediate Past President—Kenneth G. Loach, (Scarborough, Ontario)
Past President—Lester R. Craft (Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Jean-Luc Belanger (St. Sulpice, Quebec)
Royal Crabtree (Bixby, Oklahoma)
Ralph H. Dougherty (Charlotte, North Carolina)
Robert J. Folsom (Spokane, Washington)
Steven D. Gorrell (Derby, Kansas)
Gordon D. Hull (Milton, Ontario)
Harold E. Knight Jr. (Arlington, Virginia)
Henry J. Rockstroh (San Antonio, Texas)
Phillip J. VanDenBerg, D.D.S. (Niles, Michigan)
Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)

1989-1990



Kenneth E. Monschein

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Kenneth E. Monschein (St. Louis, Missouri)
President-Elect—J. Tate Thigpen, M.D. (Jackson, Mississippi)
Immediate Past President—Fernand Rondeau (Montreal, Quebec)
Past President—Kenneth G. Loach, (Scarborough, Ontario)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Jean-Luc Belanger (St. Sulpice, Quebec)
Royal Crabtree (Bixby, Oklahoma)
J. Ralph Eberhart (Marietta, Georgia)
Jerrold Goldstein (Watchung, New Jersey)
Gordon D. Hull (Milton, Ontario)
Donald Knabe (Cerritos, California)
Harold E. Knight Jr. (Arlington, Virginia)
Thomas J. Swisher (Fort Meyers, Florida)
Leonard G. Tilney Jr. (Lockport, New York)
Phillip J. VanDenBerg, D.D.S. (Niles, Michigan)

1990-1991



J. Tate Thigpen, M.D.

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—J. Tate Thigpen, M.D. (Jackson, Mississippi)
President-Elect—Donald B. Mills (Baxter, Kentucky)
Immediate Past President—Kenneth E. Monschein (St. Louis, Missouri)
Past President—Fernand Rondeau (Montreal, Quebec)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Richard M. Crealock (Vineland Station, Ontario)
J. Ralph Eberhart (Marietta, Georgia)
Jack Evans (La Palma, California)
Jerrold Goldstein (Watchung, New Jersey)
Armen Melikian (Longmont, Colorado)
Lloyd Ranalli (Santa Barbara, California)
Thomas J. Swisher (Fort Meyers, Florida)
Zack Thompson (Montgomery, Alabama)
Leonard G. Tilney Jr. (Lockport, New York)
Adrien Tremblay (Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec)

1991-1992



Donald B. Mills

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Donald B. Mills (Baxter, Kentucky)
President-Elect—John R. Reel (Plainfield, Indiana)
Immediate Past President—J. Tate Thigpen, M.D. (Jackson, Mississippi)
Past President—Kenneth E. Monschein (St. Louis, Missouri)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Berkeley S. Boyd (Locust Grove, Virginia)
Richard M. Crealock (Vineland Station, Ontario)
Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
Jack Evans (La Palma, California)
Wynn F. Foster (Coronado, California)
Armen Melikian (Longmont, Colorado)
Jim Milburn (Kansas City, Missouri)
Norbert E. Moniz (Newall, California)
Zack Thompson (Montgomery, Alabama)
Adrien Tremblay (Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec)

1992-1993



John R. Reel

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—John R. Reel (Plainfield, Indiana)
President-Elect—Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)
Immediate Past President—Donald B. Mills (Baxter, Kentucky)
Past President—J. Tate Thigpen, M.D. (Jackson, Mississippi)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Charles R. Allen (London, North Carolina)
Berkeley S. Boyd (Locust Grove, Virginia)
Robert G. Cutter (Topeka, Kansas)
Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
Wynn F. Foster (Coronado, California)
Michel Listenberger, O.D. (Niles, Michigan)
Jim Milburn (Kansas City, Missouri)
Norbert E. Moniz (Newall, California)
Dwayne R. Sievers (Cambridge, Wisconsin)
James J. Ursu (Regina, Saskatchewan)

1993-1994



Charles R. Wiles

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)
President-Elect—Jean Mercier (Chambly, Quebec)
Immediate Past President—John R. Reel (Plainfield, Indiana)
Past President—Donald B. Mills (Baxter, Kentucky)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Charles R. Allen (London, North Carolina)
Robert G. Cutter (Topeka, Kansas)
Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
Michel Listenberger, O.D. (Niles, Michigan)
Alain Marceau (Montreal, Quebec)
Steve McDonald (New Dundee, Ontario)
Donald L. Miller (Terre Haute, Indiana)
Gene Pipes (Houston, Texas)
Dwayne R. Sievers (Cambridge, Wisconsin)
James J. Ursu (Regina, Saskatchewan)

1994-1995



Jean Mercier

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Jean Mercier (Chambly, Quebec)
President-Elect—J.C. Boone Jr. (Albemarle, North Carolina)
Immediate Past President—Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)
Past President—John R. Reel (Plainfield, Indiana)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario)
David X. Chavez (Austin, Texas)
Mark Eubanks (Rome, Georgia)
Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
Alain Marceau (Montreal, Quebec)
Steve McDonald (New Dundee, Ontario)
Donald L. Miller (Terre Haute, Indiana)
Gene Pipes (Houston, Texas)
William H. Teague (Asheville, North Carolina)

1995-1996



J.C. Boone Jr.

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—J.C. Boone Jr. (Albemarle, North Carolina)
President-Elect—Clifton I. Katz (Calabasas, California)
Immediate Past President—Jean Mercier (Chambly, Quebec)
Past President—Charles R. Wiles (Cape Girardeau, Missouri)
Executive Director—Richard E. Arnold (Belleville, Illinois)

Vice Presidents:

John Acampora (Cypress, California)
Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario)
David X. Chavez (Austin, Texas)
Mark Eubanks (Rome, Georgia)
Jean Hayes (Montreal, Quebec)
Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
Carl McCarthy (Dubuque, Iowa)
Herb Strather (Detroit, Michigan)
William Spano (Laurel, Maryland)
William H. Teague (Asheville, North Carolina)

1996-1997



Clifton I. Katz

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Clifton I. Katz (Calabasas, California)
President-Elect—J. Wayne Smith (Independence, Missouri)
Immediate Past President—J.C. Boone Jr. (Albemarle, North Carolina)
Past President—Jean Mercier (Chambly, Quebec)
Executive Director—Stephen P. Lawson (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Warren Bechthold (Petersburg, Ontario)
Robert Estergaard (Surrey, British Columbia)
Clarence Gamble (Olmstead, Kentucky)
Ron Huxley (London, Ontario)
Richard Mason Jr. (Cartersville, Georgia)
Danny Nolan (Hammond, Ontario)
William O'Neil (Medina, Ohio)
Joseph Salkin (Freehold, New Jersey)
Michael Weston (Littleton, Colorado)
William Wood (St. Petersburg, Florida)

1997-1998



J. Wayne Smith

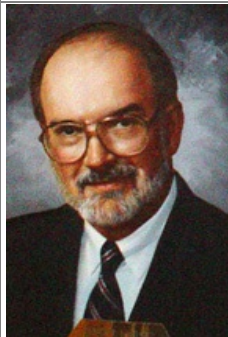
Officers/Board of Directors:

President—J. Wayne Smith (Independence, Missouri)
President-Elect—James Hubbard (Severna Park, Maryland)
Immediate Past President—Clifton I. Katz (Calabasas, California)
Past President—J.C. Boone Jr. (Albemarle, North Carolina)
Executive Director—Stephen P. Lawson (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

J. Michael Allen, D.D.S. (Aurora, Nebraska)
E. Leslie Cox (Virginia Beach, Virginia)
James Crowe (Avon, Indiana)
Duane Krob (Solon, Iowa)
William Parkin (Carlisle, Ontario)
Virginia Ricker (Columbia, South Carolina)
Philip Turner (Cownasville, Quebec)
Roger Vaughan (Birmingham, Alabama)
John Wallace (Lafayette, Louisiana)
Roy Warmack (Tallahassee, Florida)

1998-1999



James Hubbard

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—James Hubbard (Severna Park, Maryland)
President-Elect—Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
Immediate Past President—J. Wayne Smith (Independence, Missouri)
Past President—Clifton I. Katz (Calabasas, California)
Executive Director—Stephen P. Lawson (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Joe D. Adkins (Coronado, California)
Keith Bodine (Topeka, Kansas)
Rebecca Butler (West Des Moines, Iowa)
Mario Cote (Le Gardeur, Quebec)
Ronnie Dunn (Frankfort, Kentucky)
David Gass (Sheboygan, Wisconsin)
Harlon A. Hain (Bellevue, Nebraska)
John Leadford Jr. (Huntington Woods, Michigan)
Richard H. Prager (Miami Beach, Florida)
Ray Shaw (Bluffton, Indiana)

1999-2000



Andre Dubois

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
President-Elect—Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
Immediate Past President—James Hubbard (Severna Park, Maryland)
Past President—J. Wayne Smith (Independence, Missouri)
Executive Director—Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Donald Clauson (Fairfax, Minnesota)
Robert Conley (San Diego, California)
Thomas Cook (Vienna, Virginia)
Robert DiGulio (Lathrup Village, Michigan)
Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica)
Kenneth Hornick (Green Bay, Wisconsin)
Jimmy Myerhotz (Hartwell, Georgia)
Michel Rivard (St. Basile, Le Grand, Quebec)
Donald R. Sievers (Jackson, Missouri)
R.E. Windham (San Antonio, Texas)

2000-2001



Robert L. Garner

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
President-Elect—Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
Immediate Past President—Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
Past President—James Hubbard (Severna Park, Maryland)
Executive Director—Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Gary Addison (Muncie, Indiana)
Patricia Alexander (Westlake Village, California)
Lyle Bender (Tavistock, Ontario)
Bruce Bernard (Fort Lauderdale, Florida)
Carrollyn Cox (Virginia Beach, Virginia)
H. Denard Harris (Chapin, South Carolina)
James Kondrasuk (Monona Grove, Wisconsin)
Miroslaw Kuderewko (Regina, Saskatchewan)
Jean-Claude "J.C." St. Onge (St. Jerome, Quebec)
Mark Shriver (Woodstock, Georgia)

2001-2002



Jerry Henderson

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
President-Elect—William H. Teague (Leicester, North Carolina)
Immediate Past President—Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
Past President—Andre Dubois (St. Hubert, Quebec)
Executive Director—Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Nancy Boyd (Cleveland, Mississippi)
Brian Clements (Saint Thomas, Ontario)
Gary Cross (Regina, Saskatchewan)
Paul Harbin (Knoxville, Tennessee)
Lorne Nolan (Vanier, Ontario)
Bruce Phillips, M.D. (Elizabethtown, North Carolina)
H. Nick Prillaman Jr. (Atlanta, Georgia)
Stan Stewart (Jasper, Indiana)
Norman D. Teltow (Aurora, Colorado)
Ronald L. Whitaker (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma)

2002-2003



William H. Teague

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—William H. Teague (Leicester, North Carolina)
President-Elect—Dwayne R. Sievers (Cambridge, Wisconsin)
Immediate Past President—Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
Past President—Robert L. Garner (Miami, Florida)
Executive Director—Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:

Lowell "Bud" Aune (Boise, Idaho)
Brian Bogan (Waterville, New York)
Thomas A. Dempsey Jr. (Independence, Missouri)
Terry McWeeney (South Gate, California)
James P. Meyers (Bloomington, Minnesota)
Robert Perron (Terrebonne, Quebec)
Paula Reyling (Jasper, Indiana)
Byron Schaurer (Piqua, Ohio)
Stephen T. Schuneman (Centreville, Virginia)
William B. Swallow, P.G. (Milton, Pennsylvania)

2003-2004






Dwayne R. Sievers

Officers/Board of Directors:


President—Dwayne R. Sievers (Cambridge, Wisconsin)
President-Elect—Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario)
Immediate Past President—William H. Teague (Leicester, North Carolina)
Past President—Jerry Henderson (Springfield, Missouri)
Executive Director—Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)

Vice Presidents:


Alex S. Ansell (Aurora, Ontario)
Ronald K. Bourne (Kingston, Jamaica)
James E. Dever (Panama City, Florida)
Frank L. Duke (Swansea, Illinois)
Thomas E. Fortener (Dayton, Ohio)
Theodore F. Gaffin (Yuma, Arizona)
Dave Griffiths (Leesburg, Virginia)
Regis Malenfant (Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec)
Barbara J. Scirto (Lockport, New York)
Guy A. Templin (Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania)

<u>2004-2005</u>		
 <i>Yves Berthiaume</i>	Officers/Board of Directors: President —Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario) President-Elect —Michel Listenberger, O.D. (Niles, Michigan) Immediate Past President —Dwayne R. Sievers (Cambridge, Wisconsin) JOOI President —Andrew "A.J." Casey (Spottsville, Kentucky) Executive Director —Trip Gore (St. Louis, Missouri)	Vice Presidents: David E. Bruns (Topeka, Kansas) Wil Dourte, Willow Street (Pennsylvania) David K. Elster (Fayetteville, Georgia) Rickey D. Haydon (Frankfort, Kentucky) Essie Johnson (Knoxville, Tennessee) Robert Langhorst (Chula Vista, California) Serge Millette (Lachenaie, Quebec) Herbert J. O'Meara (Calabasas, California) Dan Rodgers (Fort Worth, Texas) Durward "Dee" Rushforth (Fairfax, Virginia)
	Board Members: J. Michael Allen, D.D.S. (Aurora, Nebraska) David X. Chavez (Austin, Texas) Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica) Ron Huxley (London, Ontario) Jean-Claude "J.C." St. Onge (St. Jerome, Quebec) Margaret Davis (Chickasha, Oklahoma)	
<u>2005-2006</u>		
 <i>Michel Listenberger, O.D.</i>	Officers/Board of Directors: President —Michel Listenberger, O.D. (Niles, Michigan) President-Elect —Ronnie Dunn (Frankfort, Kentucky) Immediate Past President —Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario) JOOI President —Jean-Denis Brisson (Jonquiere, Quebec) Executive Director —Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)	Vice Presidents: Robert Brown (Dutton, Ontario) Ronald W. Foster (Bonita, California) Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) Joseph Gaul (Gladstone, Missouri) Lancaster Henry (Kingston, Jamaica) Ed Hyttenrauch (Windsor, Ontario) Serge Lessard (St. Marc-de-Carrieres, Quebec) Kelli Molthen, D.C. (Cypress, California) Joe Wesley Norris (Bonita Springs, Florida) Sandra A. Wooten (El Paso, Texas)
	Board Members: J. Michael Allen, D.D.S. (Aurora, Nebraska) David X. Chavez (Austin, Texas) Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica) Ron Huxley (London, Ontario) Mark O. Shriver IV (Woodstock, Georgia) Guy A. Templin (Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania)	
<u>2006-2007</u>		
 <i>Ronnie Dunn</i>	Officers/Board of Directors: President —Ronnie Dunn (Frankfort, Kentucky) President-Elect —Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica) Immediate Past President —Michel Listenberger, O.D. (Niles, Michigan) JOOI President —Nicholas Jensen (Norfolk, Nebraska) Executive Director —Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)	Vice Presidents: Ludwig Bezemek (El Paso, Texas) Robert P. Fuller Jr. (Vista, California) Carol Haynes (Christ Church, Barbados) Kenneth E. Johnson (Oro Valley, Arizona) Douglas J. Kieffer (Gallatin, Tennessee) Dennis J. Lane (Baldwin, Maryland) Michel Laporte (Casselman, Ontario) Linda J. Lee (Savannah, Georgia) G. Keith Middleton (Charlotte, North Carolina) Dale D. Robertson (Underwood, Iowa)
	Board Members: J. Michael Allen, D.D.S. (Aurora, Nebraska) David X. Chavez (Austin, Texas) Mark O. Shriver IV (Woodstock, Georgia) Guy A. Templin (Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania) Carrollyn Cox (Virginia Beach, Virginia) Durward "Dee" Rushforth (Fairfax, Virginia)	

2007-2008

 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Theo Golding</i></p>	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica) President-Elect—Donald R. Sievers (Jackson, Missouri) Immediate Past President—Ronnie Dunn (Frankfort, Kentucky) JOOI President—Raquel Ravaglioli (Malibu, California) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)</p> <hr/> <p>Board Members:</p> <p>Mark O. Shriver IV (Woodstock, Georgia) Guy A. Templin (Sinking Spring, Pennsylvania) Carrollyn Cox (Virginia Beach, Virginia) Durward "Dee" Rushforth (Fairfax, Virginia) Claire Labreche (Montreal, Quebec) Herb Strather (Detroit, Michigan)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Roger Couture (Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec) Sue Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania) Shirley M. Jarrett (St. Ann's Bay, St. Ann, Jamaica) W. Chris Jernigan (Morganton, North Carolina) J. Douglas Lamm (Wilson, North Carolina) James A. Oliver (Valencia, California) Earl W. Pollock (Coquitlam, British Columbia) Richard "Rick" Quinlan (Bellevue, Nebraska) Linda F. Stein (Clayton, Indiana) Sandra E. Williams (Yuma, Arizona)</p>
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2008-2009

 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Donald R. Sievers</i></p>	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—Donald R. Sievers (Jackson, Missouri) President-Elect—Mark O. Shriver IV (Atlanta, Georgia) Immediate Past President—Theo Golding (Kingston, Jamaica) JOOI President—Julie d'Auteuil (Jonquiere, Quebec) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)</p> <hr/> <p>Board Members:</p> <p>Carrollyn Cox (Virginia Beach, Virginia) Durward "Dee" Rushforth (Fairfax, Virginia) Claire Labreche (Montreal, Quebec) Herb Strather (Detroit, Michigan) Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Richard A. Bloom (Gladwin, Michigan) Gerard Bourcier (Prevost, Quebec) Thomas B. Hill (Gilbert, Arizona) Samuel J. Keiffer III (Pueblo, Colorado) Ronald Lackey (Lenoir, North Carolina) Sandra Larivee (Essex, Ontario) Gil Ortiz (Pflugerville, Texas) Thomas R. Vaughn (Gilbert, Arizona) Edwin Wint, Kingston (Jamaica) Michael S. Woodward (Plainfield, Indiana)</p>
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2009-2010

 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mark O. Shriver IV</i></p>	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—Mark O. Shriver IV (Atlanta, Georgia) President-Elect—Danny Rodgers (Fort Worth, Texas) Immediate Past President—Donald R. Sievers (Jackson, Missouri) JOOI President—Marie-Pier Tremblay (St-Honore, Quebec) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)</p> <hr/> <p>Board Members:</p> <p>Claire Labreche (Montreal, Quebec) Herb Strather (Detroit, Michigan) Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario) David Bruns (Topeka, Kansas) James Kondrasuk (Monona, Wisconsin)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Andre Aubin (St-Augustin de Desmaures, Quebec) Melvin D. Bannister (Columbia, South Carolina) Dennis Desmond (Marshall, Missouri) Edwin Finn (Fredericksburg, Texas) Joanne Ganske (Middleton, Wisconsin) Marc Katz (Berkley, Michigan) David L. Prather (Shelbyville, Kentucky) Mark Weinsoff (Goleta, California)</p>
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2010-2011



Danny Rodgers

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Danny Rodgers (Fort Worth, Texas)
President-Elect—John N. "Jack" Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania)
Immediate Past President—Mark O. Shriver IV (Atlanta, Georgia)
JOOI President—Kayleigh White (Kettering, Ohio)
Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)

Board Members:

Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas)
 Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario)
 David Bruns (Topeka, Kansas)
 James Kondrasuk (Monona, Wisconsin)
 W. Chris Jernigan (Morganton, North Carolina)
 Fatima Plater (Detroit, Michigan)

Vice Presidents:

Margaret Barclay (Centerville, Ohio)(*died November 2010*); Debbie Hill (Strafford, Missouri)(*appointed December 2010*)
 Donald R. Brose Jr. (Clarkson, Michigan)
 Robert R. Buss (Kodak, Tennessee)
 Adrian Elcock (St. Thomas, Barbados)
 Ronald N. Graves (San Antonio, Texas)
 Rocky Jackson (Meridian, Idaho)
 Gloria J. Kloster (Brookings, South Dakota)
 Raymonde Michaud (Riviere-du-Loup, Quebec)

2011-2012



Jack Creswell

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—John N. "Jack" Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania)
President-Elect—Jean-Claude "J.C." St. Onge (St. Jerome, Quebec)
Immediate Past President—Danny Rodgers (Fort Worth, Texas)
JOOI President—Marie-Claude Bourgeois (Jonquiere, Quebec)
Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)

Board Members:

David Bruns (Topeka, Kansas)
 James Kondrasuk (Monona, Wisconsin)
 W. Chris Jernigan (Morganton, North Carolina)
 Fatima Plater (Detroit, Michigan)
 Michael Goldman (Davie, Florida)
 Paul W. Lucas (Odessa, Texas)

Vice Presidents:

Dwight Phillips (Windsor, Ontario)
 Rose M. Kohler (Summerville, Georgia)
 Sandra K. "Sandy" Cyphers (Wilmington, North Carolina)
 Mary Ann Gilpin (Marshall, Missouri)
 Judy Boyd (Urbandale, Iowa)
 Patsy Garner (Fort Worth, Texas)
 Esthermarie Hillman (Tucson, Arizona)
 Claire Labreche (Montreal, Quebec)

2012-2013



Jean-Claude St. Onge

Officers/Board of Directors:

President—Jean-Claude "J.C." St. Onge (St. Jerome, Quebec)
President-Elect—Ron Huxley (London, Ontario)
Immediate Past President—John N. "Jack" Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania)
JOOI President—A. J. Cifuentes (Monroe, Wisconsin)
Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)

Board Members:

W. Chris Jernigan (Morganton, North Carolina)
 Fatima Plater (Detroit, Michigan)
 Michael Goldman (Davie, Florida)
 Paul W. Lucas (Odessa, Texas)
 Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario)
 Richard J. "Rick" Quinlan (Bellevue, Nebraska)

Vice Presidents:

Sonia Anderson (Ocho Rios, Jamaica)
 Chris J. Black (Batesville, Arkansas)
 Debbie A. Ettleman (Billings, Montana)
 Richard H. Highland (Charlotte, North Carolina)
 Linda Molthen (Cypress, California)
 Lou Moss (Shelby Township, Michigan)
 Jerry C. Schue (Santa Claus, Indiana)
 Theresa Tremblay (Gatineau, Quebec)


2013-2014

	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—Ron Huxley (London, Ontario) President-Elect—Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) Immediate Past President—Jean-Claude "J.C." St. Onge (St. Jerome, Quebec) JOOI President—Stephane Theriault (Saint Abroise, Quebec) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Pierre Beaulieu (Trois-Pistoles, Quebec) Jim Boyd (Urbandale, Iowa) Willie M. Lee Jr. (Radcliff, Kentucky) Harry J. Margo (Caledonia, Michigan) William A. Meyers (Bonita, California) Ruth F. Nelson (Olathe, Kansas) Lois Philbrick (The Villages, Florida) Carl Westenbarger (Brentwood, Missouri)</p>
<p><i>Ron Huxley</i></p>	<p>Board Members:</p> <p>Michael Goldman (Davie, Florida) Marc Katz (Berkley, Michigan) Paul W. Lucas (Odessa, Texas) James Oliver (Valencia, California) Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario) Richard J. "Rick" Quinlan (Bellevue, Nebraska)</p>	

2014-2015

	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) President-Elect—David Bruns (Topeka, Kansas) Immediate Past President—Ron Huxley (London, Ontario) JOOI President—Javanni Waugh (Kingston, Jamaica) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>Danielle Dupont (Gatineau, Quebec) Janet Oord Graves (San Antonio, Texas) Lawson K. Headley (Mechanicsville, Virginia) Janet K. Lloyd (West Des Moines, Iowa) Todd McMullin (Huntington, Indiana) Deanna S. Morrow (Douglasville, Georgia) Edward "Ed" Murphy III (Redmond, Washington) Fatima Plater (Detroit, Michigan)</p>
<p><i>Kenneth Garner</i></p>	<p>Board Members:</p> <p>Judy Boyd (Urbandale, Iowa) Susan "Sue" Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania) Marc Katz (Berkley, Michigan) James Oliver (Valencia, California) Marlene Phillips (Windsor, Ontario) Richard J. "Rick" Quinlan (Bellevue, Nebraska)</p>	

2015-2016

	<p>Officers/Board of Directors:</p> <p>President—David Bruns (Topeka, Kansas) President-Elect—James Kondrasuk (Monona, Wisconsin) Immediate Past President—Kenneth Garner (Fort Worth, Texas) JOOI President—Logan Clemente (Lake Worth, Florida) Executive Director—Benny Ellerbe (St. Louis, Missouri) OIF President—Ed Finn (Fredericksburg, Texas) CCOF President—Yves Berthiaume (Hawkesbury, Ontario)</p>	<p>Vice Presidents:</p> <p>James H. "Henry" Adams (Montgomery, Alabama) Mark Claussen (Norfolk, Nebraska) Albert Clark (Fort Worth, Texas) Anne Donkers (Williamstown, Ontario) Luc Dubois (Sherbrooke, Quebec) Robert Floyd (El Dorado Springs, Missouri) Barbara Timmons (Rolesville, North Carolina) Linda Vaught (Boise, Idaho)</p>
<p><i>David Bruns</i></p>	<p>Board Members:</p> <p>Judy Boyd (Urbandale, Iowa) Rebecca Butler-Mona (West Des Moines, Iowa) Susan "Sue" Creswell (Reading, Pennsylvania) Adrian Elcock (St. Thomas, Barbados) Marc Katz (Berkley, Michigan) James Oliver (Valencia, California)</p>	

Appendix B

The Original Eleven

The following Clubs were represented at the first International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky in 1919:

Indianapolis, Indiana

Louisville, Kentucky

St. Louis, Missouri

St. Joseph, Missouri

Kansas City, Missouri

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Denver, Colorado

Kansas City, Kansas

Syracuse, New York

Buffalo, New York

Chicago, Illinois

Other Clubs known to be, or believed to have been, in existence at the time of the first convention were:

Los Angeles, California

San Diego, California

San Francisco, California

Washington, D.C.

Peoria, Illinois

Springfield, Illinois

Rochester, New York

Cincinnati, Ohio

Minneapolis, Minnesota

St. Paul, Minnesota

Baltimore, Maryland

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Several of these Clubs and one or two of those represented at the convention ceased to exist within a few months and were not reorganized until several years later.

Appendix C

International Presidents and their Themes

(Themes were not used prior to 1970-71)

<u>Year</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>Theme</u>
1970-71	Charles C. Campbell	Mission: Improvement
1971-72	Norman L. Shipley	Commitment to Action
1972-73	S. Phil McCardwell	Dedicated to Service
1973-74	Ronald E. Thompson	Challenge the Summit
1974-75	Ralph Glasscock	Desire-Dedication-Determination
1975-76	Patrick L. Grady	United We Serve
1976-77	Richard S. McAnany	Committed to Excellence
1977-78	Don L. Arnwine	Friend of Youth
1978-79	Dudley D. Williams	Friend of Youth
1979-80	James F. Creed, DVM	Lengthen Your Stride
1980-81	Lionel Grenier	Come with Me
1981-82	Seymour Silverman	Spirit of Service
1982-83	Donald E. Strub	PRIDE
1983-84	Donald J. Hand	RISE (Reason, Integrity, Strength, Enterprise)
1984-85	Ardyn J. Long	Promise Yourself
1985-86	James E. Attarian	Be a Star
1986-87	Lester R. Craft	Serve with Honor
1987-88	Kenneth G. Loach	Integrity-Growth-Service
1988-89	Fernand Rondeau	Wake Up Your Dreams
1989-90	Kenneth E. Monschein	Action
1990-91	Tate Thigpen, M.D.	Light the Way
1991-92	Donald B. Mills	A United Spirit
1992-93	John R. Reel	Celebrate Our Heritage, Our Future
1993-94	Charles R. Wiles	Soar with Optimism
1994-95	Jean Mercier	For a Better World
1995-96	J.C. Boone, Jr.	Excel for Others
1996-97	Clifton I. Katz	In Our Hands
1997-98	J. Wayne Smith	Renaissance: Commitment to Growth
1998-99	James H. Hubbard	Teamwork
1999-2000	1999-2000 Andre Dubois	Vision 2000
2000-01	Robert L. Garner	Mission
2001-02	Jerry Henderson	Attitude
2002-03	William H. teague	Where Every Kid Counts
2003-04	Dwaine R. Sievers	Yes We Can
2004-05	Yves Berthiaume	I Believe
2005-06	Dr. Michel Listenberger	Bringing Out the Best in Kids
2006-07	Ronnie Dunn	Love
2007-08	Theodore Golding	Bringing Out the Best in Children
2008-09	Donald R. Sievers	Give Me "Five" for the Kids
2009-10	Mark O. Shriver IV	Promise Yourself for the Kids
2010-11	Danny Rodgers	Bringing Out the Best in Kids
2011-12	Jack Creswell	100%...and Then Some
2012-13	Jean-Claude St-Onge	For the Future
2013-14	Ron Huxley	MO
2014-15	Ken Garner	Bringing Out THE BEST in Kids
2015-16	Dave Bruns	Bringing Out the Best in Youth, in Our Communities, and in Ourselves

Appendix D

Conventions of Optimist International

(Attendance figures prior to 1952 are not available)

<u>Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Louisville, KY	1919	Unknown
St. Louis, MO	1920	Unknown
Springfield, IL	1921	Unknown
Kansas City, MO	1922	Unknown
Chattanooga, TN	1923	Unknown
Milwaukee, WI	1924	Unknown
Houston, TX	1925	Unknown
Lexington, KY	1926	Unknown
Denver, CO	1927	Unknown
Asheville, NC	1928	Unknown
Tulsa, OK	1929	Unknown
Erie, PA	1930	Unknown
Detroit, MI	1931	Unknown
San Francisco, CA	1932	Unknown
Washington, DC	1933	Unknown
Toronto, ON	1934	Unknown
St. Louis, MO	1935	Unknown
Fort Worth, TX	1936	Unknown
Cincinnati, OH	1937	Unknown
Los Angeles, CA	1938	Unknown
Richmond, VA	1939	Unknown
Kansas City, MO	1940	Unknown
Minneapolis, MN	1941	Unknown
Chicago, IL (Wartime Conference)	1942	Unknown
Chicago, IL (Wartime Conference)	1943	Unknown
St. Louis, MO (Wartime Conference)	1944	Unknown
Minneapolis, MN (Wartime Conference)	1945	Unknown
Miami Beach, FL	1946	Unknown
Denver, CO	1947	Unknown
San Antonio, TX	1948	Unknown
San Francisco, CA	1949	Unknown
Atlantic City, NJ	1950	Unknown
Detroit, MI	1951	Unknown
Louisville, KY	1952	1,507
Washington, DC	1953	1,840
Houston, TX	1954	1,741
Montreal, QC	1955	1,501
Los Angeles, CA	1956	1,647
Philadelphia, PA	1957	1,416
Dallas, TX	1958	1,601
Miami Beach, FL	1959	1,781
Grand Rapids, MI	1960	1,444
Las Vegas, NV	1961	2,362
St Louis, MO	1962	1,825
Toronto, ON	1963	2,115
Denver, CO	1964	2,090
New Orleans, LA	1965	2,556
Baltimore, MD	1966	2,249
Portland, OR	1967	1,802
Louisville, KY	1968	2,980
Miami Beach, FL	1969	2,522
Los Angeles, CA	1970	2,502
Minneapolis, MN	1971	2,382
Montreal, QC	1972	3,298
San Antonio, TX	1973	2,988
Atlanta, GA	1974	3,105
San Francisco, CA	1975	2,507
Washington, DC	1976	2,504
Houston, TX	1977	2,644
San Diego, CA	1978	3,200
Kansas City, MO	1979	2,898
Toronto, ON	1980	3,917
Orlando, FL	1981	3,767
St. Louis, MO	1982	3,377
New Orleans, LA	1983	3,873
Philadelphia, PA	1984	3,418
Albuquerque, NM	1985	3,600
Charlotte, NC	1986	3,292

Montreal, QC	1987	5,221
Reno, NV	1988	3,721
Indianapolis, IN	1989	3,325
Seattle, WA	1990	2,664
Nashville, TN	1991	4,037
Anaheim, CA	1992	2,625
Louisville, KY	1993	3,305
Montreal, QC	1994	2,976
San Antonio, TX	1995	2,591
Las Vegas, NV	1996	2,876
Detroit, MI	1997	2,099
Atlanta, GA	1998	2,157
Toronto, ON	1999	2,229
Reno, NV	2000	2,153
Orlando, FL	2001	2,130
Indianapolis, IN	2002	1,677
Kansas City, MO	2003	1,779
St. Louis, MO	2004	1,642
New Orleans, LA	2005	2,066
Nashville, TN	2006	1,929
Montreal, QC	2007	1,727
Grapevine, TX	2008	1,274
Orlando, FL	2009	1,204
Denver, CO	2010	1,152
Baltimore, MD	2011	1,113
Milwaukee, WI	2012	1,107
Cincinnati, OH	2013	1,041
Las Vegas, NV	2014	1,077
New Orleans, LA	2015	1,035

Appendix E

Executive Secretaries/Executive Directors of Optimist International

Harry G. Hill

1919-1922

Harry B. Lewis

1922-1923

Thomas B. Elliot

1923-1928

Russell F. Meyer

1928-1953

Bernard B. Buford

1954-1966

Hugh C. Cranford

1967-1986

Richard E. Arnold

1986-1995

(In 1987 the title of Executive Secretary was changed to Executive Director)

Stephen P. Lawson

1995-1999

Logan "Trip" Gore III

1999-2005

Benny Ellerbe

2005-

Appendix F

The International Office

In the earliest days of the organization, the “office” of Optimist International was literally carried around in a man’s pocket or housed in one drawer of his desk. In 1919, the first “headquarters” was established in the secretary’s office at 824 N. Pennsylvania Street in Indianapolis, Indiana. Thirty months later it moved to the Indiana College of Music and Fine Arts at 1410 N. Delaware Street in that same city. When the 1922 convention elected a San Francisco Optimist as president, the International Office was moved to his office at 354 Pine Street in that city. Before the year was up both he and the office moved to 58 Sutter Street.

Delegates to the 1923 convention saw the impracticality of a headquarters office that hopped around the country every year or two. They also realized the need for a professional secretary to devote full time to the needs of the organization. They created a permanent office at 816 Olive Street in St. Louis and hired the first paid secretary (forerunner to today’s executive director), Thomas B. Elliott. This one-room office was used for about a year by Elliott before the headquarters was moved to the Railway Exchange Building, a structure that was to accommodate a constantly growing staff and its steadily enlarging facilities for the next 40 years.



Employees hard at work to serve Optimist membership.

By 1955, with more than a thousand Optimist Clubs and nearly 50,000 members, it became obvious that the International Office couldn't function much longer in a series of rooms scattered through several floors of an office building. Unfortunately the building housed other tenants as well and it was not possible to always secure adjoining or even abutting rooms. The need for its own building, designed and constructed for the purpose, was growing greater. At the March 1955 meeting of the International Board of Directors, a fact-finding committee was formed to investigate the possibilities of a new building. The 1957 convention in Philadelphia saw the first positive step taken when delegates approved a permanent headquarters building fund into which every Optimist would pay 50 cents semi-annually from January 1, 1958, until September 30, 1966.

A committee headed by William H. Pierce of Dallas, Texas (who later became International President) spent two years surveying several cities in the United States and Canada that had been proposed as

possible sites for the new building. The committee finally settled on the city where the Office had been for nearly 40 years, St. Louis, Missouri.

On Lindell Boulevard—long known as St. Louis’ “Fifth Avenue,” and in the early 1900s the most exclusive residential area in Missouri—a site was selected. Two handsome old mansions built in the 19th century were purchased and razed. On the 170-by-213-foot lot, Optimist International built its first International Office building. The two-story building provided 18,000 square feet of floor space, including a room for the Board of Directors to meet in.





An official headquarters office was necessary to meet the needs of the growing organization.

On February 26, 1962, after weeks of preparation, the staff of Optimist International moved into its first permanent home. The Board of Directors held its first meeting there the following month. Everyone felt that the new building, constructed at a cost of \$350,000, would provide ample space for the next 25 to 30 years. But just seven years later, at the International Convention, delegates voted to reactivate the building fund and assess each member 50 cents a year for the purpose of securing additional office space sometime in the future to accommodate the ever-growing organization's needs.

On a cold December day in 1968, a tangible symbol of Optimism was unveiled in front of the new International Office. An 8.5-foot-tall, six-ton granite sculpture depicting Optimism's "Symbol of Service" made its first appearance. Sculptor William Conrad Severson's concept was of an interlocked "O" and "I" that was to be "an expression of the dynamic forward-thinking group called Optimists."

In 1974 the building committee began in earnest to look positively at future needs. It was obvious even then that the rapidly growing organization would need more room for its headquarters and the necessarily larger staff. Every possibility was explored. The idea of selling the present building and constructing a new and larger one in another location was given considerable consideration. Proposed sites were visited. Existing structures up for sale were inspected.

After months of deliberation, the committee came forth with a definite proposal that was adopted immediately by the organization. A new three-story tower, adjacent to and connected to the present building, would be built on the lot used for staff and visitor parking. As designed, the addition would add approximately 15,000 more square feet of office space.

Dedication of the \$1.2 million addition was held on July 28, 1978. By late 1983—less than five years later—the organization had paid off the cost of the building, and the special building fund assessment of \$1.50 a year that all members had been paying was reduced to 50 cents.



A ceremony was held to commemorate the opening of Optimist International.

Appendix G

Optimist International Foundations

From its founding, Optimist International had been funded solely by dues paid by Optimists. For a time this was sufficient. However, as the years went by it became more and more obvious that this was placing a limit on the service to Clubs, especially when it came to enlarging and broadening the scope of existing activities and the creation of sorely needed new ones.

Out of this situation came the idea of forming a foundation to fund Optimist International programs. In 1969, the Board of Directors instructed the Optimist International Finance Committee to go to work on the detailed creation of this foundation. After many months of study and research the new foundation was officially announced at the 1971 International Convention. Past International President Gene Sternberg explained to the delegates what the Optimist International Foundation's purpose was. "This corporation is created and shall be operated exclusively for the charitable, literary and educational purposes of Optimist International."

An article in the October 1972 issue of The Optimist exclaimed, "Creation of the Foundation now provides a method by which members, friends and others who, recognizing the need for expanded services, may make financial contributions by various means."

Initially, the Foundation was challenged to secure the necessary resources to fund the programs of Optimist International. With an influx of financial support, Optimist International would be able to expand current programs and further cast the reach of its influence. And so, a fundraising goal of one million dollars was announced, and members quickly lent their financial resources to the cause. Ten years later, through the generous support of Optimists, the Foundation reached the one million dollar goal.

To meet the desires of Canadian members, the Optimist International Foundation of Canada was established in 1988. This foundation was established to allow Canadians making a contribution to receive a charitable tax deduction and support the programs of Canadian Optimists. One hundred percent of funds raised in Canada stay in Canada to fund programs.