



# *The Helping Hand*

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***Words from the Editor***

**January 21st, 2017**

Happy January everyone. Well! all is well in the Political Arena, Our credit card bills from Christmas are on the way, The decorations are all put away, and all the house guests have returned home, 😊😊 which leaves no excuses for not jumping into membership growth for our clubs. This being another year to accomplish Honor and or Distinguished club. We would all like to congratulate The Optimist Club of Hillsboro, The Optimist Club of Caldwell Idaho and the Optimist Club of Nampa Idaho for achieving Honor Club thus far this year. Great Job.

It is with great sadness that I report for those that don't already know, the loss of our good friend and longtime Optimist member Harry White of the Vancouver BC club. Most of us have known Harry for many years, and I have worked on many projects with him. You are missed Harry. Unfortunately I don't have info on services

Big doings for the Hillsboro Optimist Club, as they were able to Judge the VEXIQ IQ Robotics Tournament (mouthful huh!) participants were from both Mt. Angel and Hillsboro. Anytime we do a project in our communities involving youth it is the best thing we can do with our lives.

The Twin Falls Optimist Club was highly involved during the season with SANTA CAUSE founded in 2005 with the vision of giving back to others through work with Foster Children. As I do Santa Gigs during the season I know how much fun it is working with kids. Twin Falls also works with COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (CASA) to help with fundraising for local youth projects such as dance lessons, football, driver training music lessons and many more. Isn't that the same organization that Past Governor Ray Hilts was an executive in?





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From OI Convention Chair

The Optimist International 100th annual Convention will be in the capital city of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, July 8 - 10, 2018. All events will take place at the Shaw Centre with hotel rooms reserved at the Westin, (headquarter hotel), Les Suites and Novotel Ottawa hotels.

Convention registration forms and more information on the hotel and flight discounts will be available at each of the zone meetings. If you want to register and make your room and flight reservations before then, you can go to [www.optimist.org/convention](http://www.optimist.org/convention). Early bird registration must be postmarked or faxed no later than May 31, 2018. If you have questions about the registration form, contact O.I. at (800)500-8130 or e-mail [convention@optimist.org](mailto:convention@optimist.org). Please feel free to contact me at [frenchw503@aol.com](mailto:frenchw503@aol.com).

Our West Coast Region has an assignment for the convention. We will be in charge of welcoming first-timers and answering any questions they may have. We hope to set up a table at registration and will be asking attendees to take a shift or two. Thanks in advance for helping.

Evelyn French, District O.I. Convention Ambassador

Hey Club bulletin editors. Please send me a schedule as to when your bulletins come out, and I will schedule the district bulletin to coincide, then I won't miss anybody. Now I can fake it but it's much more fun to be accurate. Wait a mo let me rethink that. Michael Gray has put out the updated District Directory, so jump on it and update yours.

Be sure and add Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> to your calendar as that is I AM AN OPTIMIST DAY. This is the 2nd year that Optimist International is encouraging all clubs to show their



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pride by wearing Optimist gear.

Here be some funnies: OR GROANERS

Do you know why you never see Elephant up in trees (cuz they are really good at It)

What is Red and smells like blue paint (red paint)

I told my friend 10 jokes to get him to laugh (Sadly no pun in 10 did)

What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common (Same middle name)

OK gang that's it for this month. If I have made you smile or given you insight then this publication has been a success. As an Optimist and friend I love you all see you next time. Your District Bulletin Editor, Fred A. Wallace

