



The Van-Guard

Official Publication of Optimist Club 32-185
August/September 2017



Coming Events!

October 27-29: Pacific Northwest District First Quarter Conference, Clover Island Inn, Kennewick, Washington

December 2: Annual Walk and Knock

2018 Optimist Conferences and Convention

1st Quarter Kennewick, Washington, October 27-29

2nd Quarter Three District one-day meetings, combined zones: (a) British Columbia, (b) Idaho and (c) Oregon. January, February, March, dates and locations TBD

3rd Quarter Hood River, April 27-29, 2018

Convention Lebanon, August 9-12, 2018

Boise Convention Well Done

Congratulations to Governor Rick Matkin and District Secretary/Treasurer Sharon Gray for putting together a great convention in Boise on August 10-13.

Like everywhere in the Pacific Northwest District, the weather was scorching, with the sun mostly shrouded in a haze from all the wildfires burning throughout the District. Pre-convention activities kicked off with golf and whitewater rafting on the Payette River on Thursday.

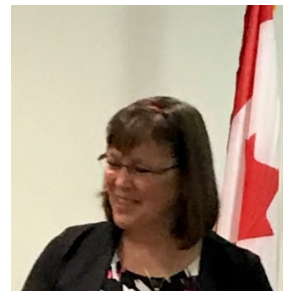


(Photo provided by Mike Gray)

We got down to business at 3:30 p.m. for the Executive Committee meeting, where the four resolutions with a “do pass” recommendation were moved forward to the Board of Directors meeting on Saturday. After lengthy discussions of the resolution recommending a hiatus for

one year on the CCDHH contest, it was decided that if there were no viable participants outside of British Columbia by December 31, 2017, the contest would not move forward this year. Other actions by the Board were as follows:

1. Lt. Governors would visit their clubs at least once each year instead of twice. Because of the great distances Lt. Governors must travel to visit their clubs, two additional zones were approved at the third quarter meeting in Burnaby BC. The new zone alignment is British Columbia, Idaho East, Idaho West, Oregon North, Oregon South and Washington and Alaska. The Lt. Governors are: Tyler Carr BC, Doug Row Idaho East; Joe Shreve Idaho West; Scott Keller Oregon North; Peter Sudduth Oregon South; and Gary Smith Washington and Alaska. It was also clarified that the one-day second quarter regional meetings were official District meetings not zone meetings.
2. Voting strength (in harmony with OI By-Laws) would be 1 vote per 10 club members or fraction thereof (i.e., 6 or more) to be cast by any eligible/certified registered member at the convention; and
3. Members of the Board of Directors may be installed at the Convention or the first available opportunity at the beginning of the new Optimist year following the convention.



As mentioned in our last issue of *The Van-Guard*, Susan Fix, Optimist International Representative and Vice President of the Great Plains Region, handled leadership training for incoming presidents and secretary/treasurers. Susan also shared

some wonderful ideas about how to make your meetings fun and entertaining. At the banquet, she encouraged the audience to live a happy and kind life.

Tech Support

A customer called Compaq tech support to say her brand-new computer wouldn't work. She said she unpacked the unit, plugged it in, and sat there for 20 minutes waiting for something to happen. When asked what happened when she pressed the power switch, she asked "What power switch?"

A Dell customer called to say he couldn't get his computer to fax anything. After 40 minutes of trouble-shooting, the technician discovered the man was trying to fax a piece of paper by holding it in front of the monitor screen and hitting the "send" key.

Ben DeRemer Governor Elect



Ben DeRemer and Teresa Wallace, both of the Gresham Optimist Club, threw their hats into the ring to become our 2018-2019 Governor Elect. Ben was elected, but with a very strong showing by Teresa.

A member since 2012, Ben has been president of both the Gresham and Gresham

Scouter's clubs, earning both Honor and Distinguished during his years. He also has been a Lt. Governor and served as a PNWD committee chair. At the 2017 International Convention in Albuquerque in July, Ben was invited to join the Leadership Academy where participants are encouraged to take leadership roles in their districts. As a result, Ben is now our District Governor Elect. Way to go Ben!

Roy Proctor Award

Roy Proctor was a highly respected member of the Pacific Northwest District from the Optimist Club of Salem. Roy's abilities as an orator were enjoyed by all when he made presentations. He and his wife Blessing were welcomed as friends wherever they traveled. He was a natural leader, not only in Optimism, but also in the insurance industry as a member of the Oregon Insurance Commission. In his honor, this award was developed by members of the district who also thought it fitting that he be one of the first recipients, which was awarded at a district meeting in Salem, Oregon. The award has been given to members of the district, nominated by their peers, who have stretched to achieve excellence for our district.

Award Requirements

Having given at least 10 years of service to the District, which does NOT need to include having served as a district officer; AND Having built a new club or having consistently brought in new members over their Optimist career or having served as District Foundation Representative; AND Having provided inspiration and motivation to fellow Optimists.

The 2017 award recipient is Rose Brodie of the Mission BC Club (shown with Annette Smith, Coquitlam, and Committee Chair for the award). Rose is known for her quick



smile, enthusiasm and energy galore, and dedication to kids. (Photo by Mike Gray)

Stub Clarkson, AKA Axel Torkalquist Introduces Coach Bryan Harsin

We learned a lot about the Boise Noon football program and one of its star players, Coach Bryan Harsin (Boise State Broncos). He



and Stub go way back – back to when the Coach was only 9 years old. He said that when he joined football he learned he liked to hit people (a very positive way to channel that excess energy). Over the years, Coach Harsin continued his strong relationship with the Boise Noon football program, donating time and money. We learned that the folks working with the coach were very protective of his time and that for most people, it was near impossible to get a meeting with him, but not for Stub. Even though I'm not a big follower of college football, I thoroughly enjoyed his visit. I found him to be interesting and one of the kindest and most humble individuals I had ever met. Clearly Coach Harsin is a great example of the impact Optimists have on our youth!

First Quarter in Kennewick October 27-29, 2017

The Tri-Cities Optimist Club is hosting the first quarter of the new Optimist year in Kennewick, Washington. Governor Bruce has a great conference planned. Get your Halloween costumes dusted off and tucked into your suitcases. Judging will take place at the Opening Session on Friday night. Esthermarie Hillman, a certified OI Trainer will spend much of Saturday conducting some pretty awesome training on "Optimist Strong". We'll also be joined by Jim Peckney, International Vice-President, Western Region. Jim will share the "Fishing Philosophy" on team building, accompanied by a 20-minute video.


The conference will take place at the Clover Island Inn, 435 Clover Island Drive, Kennewick WA 509.586.0541, Room rates are \$74 single queen and \$84 double queen. All rooms will be on the river side of the hotel. Breakfast is included and there is an on-site restaurant and bar. The Optimist room block will be released back to the hotel October 18, so register early. PNWD registration is \$80 US and \$98 Canadian. On-line registration should be open by September 15. Go to: www.pnwoptimist.com OR <http://www.pacificnorthwestoptimist.org>

An Old Farmer's Wisdom

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

***The Optimist Creed
Promise yourself.....***

*To be so strong that nothing
can disturb your peace of mind;
To talk health, happiness and prosperity
to every person you meet;
To make all your friends feel there is
something in them;
To look at the sunny side of everything
and make your optimism come true;
To think only of the best, to work only
for the best and expect only the best;
To be just as enthusiastic about the
success of others as you are
about your own;
To forget the mistakes of the past
and press on to the greater
achievements of the future;
To wear a cheerful countenance at all
times and give every living creature
you meet a smile;
To give so much time to the improvement
of yourself that you have no time
to criticize others;
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger,
to strong for fear, and too happy to permit
the presence of trouble.*



Your Optimist Leadership

October 1, 2017

Optimist International
H. Nick Prillaman Jr., President

Pacific Northwest District
Bruce Gilbertson, Governor

Lt. Governor, Zone 4
Gary Smith, Lt. Governor

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Rod Pollock, 360.254.458
Mary White, Sec/Treas, 360.695.1349

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Newsletter
Mary White, Editor

