

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

December 10, 2010

Growth

Beginning on October 1, 2010 2127 new Optimists have joined our family, 145 New Friends of Optimists have been added, and 8 new Optimist Clubs have been established.

Parallel District Conferences

Success – pure and simple success. Beginning the first weekend in October and continuing for seven straight weekends, over 2100 Optimists had the experience of attending a Parallel District Conference – we came together for fellowship, training, lots of food, laughter, and the creation of amazing connections in the first ever Parallel District Conferences. From Branson, to Asheville, to Niagara Falls and Laval – on to Bloomington and Dallas and concluding in Ocho Rios, Jill and I experienced a series of dreams come true. We have visited and connected with Optimists from more than 40 districts and more importantly they connected with each other. I believe that together, we have embarked on an amazing journey.

The Parallel District Conferences were a collaborative effort led by six Vice Presidents that stepped up and delivered, big time - Bob Buss – Don Brose – Raymonde Michaud – Gloria Kloster – Ron Graves – Adrian Elcock – their contribution was essential and deeply appreciated. They had the courage and vision to lead and I cannot adequately sing their praises. What a blessing they are to our organization.

We are currently in the process of sending “thank you” letters to all PDC attendees and asking them to recruit a new member or FOO so we can build and maintain healthy clubs for the future of the organization.

Communication

The Fall issue of the Optimist magazine and the December issue of the Hotline have a new and fresh look. They are easier to read and are a part of an ongoing effort to make all of our communication platforms more relevant and effective to our mission. Great strides have been made and it is exciting to be a part of this effort.

Partners in Success

It has been my privilege this fall to work with an outstanding Optimist International Staff. Again and again we have worked together to do everything possible to promote and encourage and grow our organization. They are fearless and relentless in their passion and commitment to who and what we are as Optimists. We, as an organization are incredibly blessed to have the opportunity to work with them everyday. Thank you- Thank you – Thank you!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Rodgers
2010-2011 International President