

**REPORT TO THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
BY THE**

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION COMMITTEE

December 10-11, 2010
St. Louis, Missouri – Headquarters

SECTION I - REQUESTS FOR BOARD ACTION

A. 2010 CONVENTION SURPLUS

Rationale: Because the organization strives to enhance the experience of attendees at every International Convention, and because the 2010 Convention ended with a surplus of more than \$35,000, it is being recommended that some of the surplus be used to enhance the 2011 Convention. The additional funds will help cover the cost of the necessary expenses involved with the optional meals i.e. food, local entertainment, audio equipment, etc. and may provide the opportunity to upgrade local entertainment as well. Please keep in mind, the registration fee has increased; however, the price of the optional meals i.e. Club President-Elect Breakfast, Banquet, Appreciation Luncheon and Old Timers Breakfast has stayed the same for several years. In light of the constant increase in taxes and gratuity for large group meals prepared at an upscale hotel large enough to provide the space we need, these fees barely cover the cost of the plated meal; therefore, leaving very little left over to pay for quality local entertainment.

Motion Requested:

The Board of Directors hereby approves using \$15,000 of the surplus from the 2010 Convention to enhance the experience of the attendees at the 2011 Convention.

SECTION II FOR BOARD INFORMATION

AA. CONVENTION PROMOTION

Promotion is well underway starting with our first newsletter in October 2010 and promotional flyers handed out at the PDCs as well as communicating with the District International Convention Ambassadors, Governors and Vice Presidents to assist with the promotion of the convention. The award winning ambassadors will be recognized and brought on stage at the Opening Ceremonies. All of them will be recognized by displaying names on the big screens.

To receive an award, ambassadors must achieve one of the following goals, based on advance registration from their District.

1. Highest percentage of Club President-Elects pre-registered.
2. Highest percentage of Clubs pre-registered.
3. Largest number of people in attendance for a District

The local Ambassadors are not eligible for these awards due to the “home court” advantage.

BB. 2011 CONVENTION LOCATION

The 2011 Convention will take place under one roof at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, right on the banks of the Baltimore Inner Harbor. Please take time to check out all there is to do in the harbor and water taxis are available to take you to all the other fun and interesting places. Visit www.thewatertaxi.com for a map and much more!

Room rate: \$135 plus 15.5 % taxes (tax rates subject to change)

There are also hotel rooms available at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel for \$139 plus 15.5% taxes just a short walk away from the Marriott. This is also where the JOOI Convention will take place immediately following the OI Convention July 5-7, 2011.

CC. CONVENTION TRAVEL

Airlines and Rental Cars

Some air carriers and rental car agencies are offering discounts on rates. Visit the convention page of www.optimist.org for details.

DD. LOTTAFUN KIDS EVENTS (YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND TOURS)

If you are bringing your children or grandchildren along, the Host Area Committee has plenty of fun in store for them! Youth ages 5 to 18 can embark on the many events planned for the 2011 Youth Adventures! Visit the convention page of www.optimist.org for details.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie Jerman, Chair

Dennis Lane, Host Area Committee Chair-Baltimore

Joanne Ganske, Host Area Committee Chair-Milwaukee

Rogersville, MO

Baldwin, MD

Madison, WI