

For years, if not decades, there have been largely informal associations of civic service clubs, men's and women's, or their leaders, in countless North American communities. Their primary if not sole function has been to establish and maintain rapport between community-serving volunteer groups, to help forestall duplication of effort, exchange meeting program ideas, and, on occasion, provide opportunity for cooperation, sometimes on problems or challenges too great for a single organization. Such association does not anticipate joint projects but, on occasion, such cooperation does occur to the advantage of all concerned.

Experience suggests that such association has been valuable to participants and their communities despite the natural desire of each participating group to maintain its own identity and individuality. Such groups normally consist of the presidents, or their representatives, of each participating club and usually meet periodically, sometimes monthly.

Under such circumstances the Board of Directors of Optimist International looks with favor upon the participation of Optimist clubs in such associations in their communities.

(Feb 1972)

NOTE: Above position of the Board of Directors toward "Civic Service Club Councils" was adopted February 1972 in response to discussion of subject at Service Club Leaders Conference in Macon, Georgia, November 1971.