

1972-1973 IOWA DISTRICT

President of O.I.	S. Phil McCardwell (Ruth) Suite 169, Mall Office Center 400 Sherburn Lane Louisville, Kentucky 40207	
Regional Vice-Pres.	Jack W. Fairall (Bonnie) 8710 Galena Drive El Paso, Texas 79904	
Governor	* Harry Kral (Bernice) 414 South Market Street Solon, Iowa 52333	
Lt. Governors	* William H. Roemen Floyd Hamman Harvey Vellinga Gerald Durant H. H. Holly Borland Kieth Koch * W. Bill Rowland * Richard Beck Merlan Marting Richard Davis	Larchwood Red Oak Marshalltown Newton Waterloo Cedar Rapids Iowa City Kalona Dubuque Muscatine
Secretary-Treas.	Willard Verba	Cedar Rapids
District Chairmen	Gerald Herriott Ralph LaCombe Roy Gallagher Homer Rinehart Bob Pekios Leland P. Stocker Dean Chandler Leslie H. Miller Paul Draper Gary Turner Doug Cozad Paul Dysart Herb Cochran Charlie Trussell Bill Harrison R.W."Tiny" Lehman	A & A Youth Act. Club Serv. " " " " Community Se Convention Finance Life M. & P M & A N.C.B. N.C.B. N.C.B. Leadership Oratorical Parl. & Nom.
District Convention Site	Des Moines, Iowa	
O.I: Representative	Norman L. Shipley (Past Pres.)	

* Distinguished

Clubs in Iowa:

Ames
 Ankeny
 Atlantic
 Bettendorf
 Bettendorf A.M.
 Cedar Falls
 Cedar Rapids
 Cedar Rapids, evening
 Cedar Rapids, Thurs.
 Cedar Rapids, Friday
 Cedar Rapids, Sunrise
 Cedar Rapids, Marion
 Chariton
 Coralville
 **Council Bluffs
 Council Bluffs Hi-Noon
 Council Bluffs West-end
 Davenport
 +Davenport Breakfast
 Decorah
 Denison
 Des Moines
 DeWitt
 Dubuque
 +Dubuque Evening
 Dubuque morning
 Glenwood
 Hiawatha
 Iowa City
 Iowa City Sunrise
 Iowa Falls
 **Kolona
 **Larchwood
 Lisbon
 Marshalltown
 Marshalltown morning
 +Maquoketa
 Mt. Pleasant
 Muscatine
 Newton
 Onawa
 Ottumwa
 Red Oak
 Sioux City
 **Solon
 Villisca
 Washington
 Waterloo

President:

Carl C. Watson
 Jerry Schuttloffel
 Richard E. Moser
 Arlan High
 Herman Ziffren
 Norman Ritter
 Harold Bogert
 Dale Peek
 Tom LeBuhn
 Jerry Shoemaker
 Jerrald Adams
 David Hupp
 Paul Wehage
 Tom Greenland H. Ehmsen
 Doug Cozad
 E. B. Floersch
 Melvin McKern
 Roy A. Bush
 Henry Farber
 Bruce Keith
 Rev. Jerold Irvin
 Harold Harner
 Kim Haring
 Del Buchheit
 William Howes
 Dr. John Quinlan
 Merlin Hale
 John Greif
 Herbert Jordan
 Thomas Summy
 Norman Tolsdorf
 * Monroe Yoder
 * Floyd Hawk
 Mike Williams
 Charles King
 Gary Pierce
 Charles Dietz
 Bob Grieser
 Theodore Ziemann
 Rick Breckenridge
 Randel Kuhlman
 Arnold Roseman
 Donald Maher
 Merle Albers
 * Pat Nalley
 Gil Cohoon
 Rex Ray
 Fred Locke

Secretary:

Darrill Abel
 Bill Gales
 Leslie Young
 Bud Austin
 Benton Hunter
 Stephen Daggs
 Ralph LaCombe
 Jim Pickart
 Bill L. Kennedy
 Gene Kellenberger
 James Riehl
 James Follon
 Rev. James Krapf
 Garrett Wimpey
 Ron P. Searcy
 Gary Kirkendall
 Douglas Ives
 James Vonderhaar
 William Cusak
 Gene Frank
 Paul Ouverson
 Harold DeSmidt
 James Richmond
 Robert Metalak
 Wayne Kilburt
 Karl Hunter
 Richard Allesheiligen
 Keith Kress
 Ralph Deadman
 William Stevenson
 Dennis Speas
 Richard Beck
 Ray Tiezen
 James (Sam) See
 Paul Hicks
 John Rundall
 Allan Burr
 Donald Kinker
 Robert Poyer
 Jon Born
 John Zink
 Varrell Fullmer
 Larry Neal
 Ralph Hansel
 Al Eich
 Tom Focht
 Maynard Goff Jr.
 Dennis Sommer

Clubs Added:

Cedar Rapids, Daybreak
 +North Liberty
 Little Rock
 Ely

*Distinguished President
 +Presidential Citation

Mel Weiland
 Larry Fuhrmeister
 James Haegele
 James Barger

**Honor Club

Les Kral
 Gary Johnson
 Gordon Kuiper
 Robert Krob

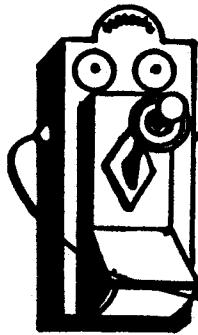
Clubs Deleted:

Iowa Falls
 Ankeny

Membership 2001 - 2109 +108
 Clubs 48 +4 -2 = 50
 Life Membership Quota 17 = 18
 International Rank 17



EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1972



Over The Line

HARRY KRAL , Governor
WILLARD VERBA , Secretary-Treasurer

VOLUME VIII
ISSUE XII



September 30, 1973

No. 3 No. 4

O.C. of LITTLE ROCK ORGANIZED SEPTEMBER 18th

The Optimist Club of Little Rock became the third new club in the Iowa District when it was organized on September 18, 1973 with "85" charter members. Tom Watters, Optimist International Representative, was the official organizer who inducted James Haegle as the Charter President and Gordon Kuiper as the Secretary - Treasurer. Vice Presidents will be Gene Peters and Kenneth Dammann. Directors 2 years - Dwight Leemkuil, Jack Peters, Martin Kruse; Directors 1 year - Larry Heidebrink, Klaas Nagel and Russell Peters. Sponsor of the Optimist Club of Little Rock was the Optimist Club of Larchwood under the direction of President Russ Hawk with the help of his new club building chairman Roy Gallagher and his committee. This is the largest group of men chartered to date in the Iowa District and will be a record that will be hard to surpass. Our congratulations to the sponsors and to the newly formed Optimist Club of Little Rock - WELCOME !

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PLAN NOW FOR YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK

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O. C. OF ELY COMMISSIONED SEPTEMBER 26, 1973

The Optimist Club of Ely, as commissioned on September 26, 1973, became the fourth club to get its start during the current year in the Iowa District. Doctor Ray Rembolt represented Optimist International as the official Commissioner with 35 men signed at the official meeting. With the charter membership remaining open until the official organizer arrives from Optimist International, it is expected that the official membership at that time will be 70 charter members. Inducted as the Charter President was James Barger with Robert Krob serving him as the Secretary - Treasurer. Vice Presidents will be Marvin Dostal and Orville Meskimen. Directors 2 years - Richard Harger, Richard Holscher and Elmer Vonorny. Directors 1 year - Alvin Danielson, Keith Carson and Marvib Gregor. The Optimist Club of Kalona was the sponsoring club at Ely and they are to be congratulated on the formation of Ely and making the new club building quota both for their club and the Iowa District. President Monroe Yoder led the Kalona group assisted by new club building chairman Dick Beck and his committee. Our congratulations to the newly formed Optimist Club of Ely - WELCOME !



James Barger



Robert Krob

Pictured above are Jim Barger, President and Bob Krob, Secretary - Treasurer of the Optimist Club of Ely which was commissioned on September 26, 1971 by Doctor Ray Rembolt. This club was the fourth to be formed in the Iowa District during the past year.

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WILLARD LOOKS BACK ON 1972 - 1973

As we look back over the last twelve months, we can see where we could have done somethings different, but as the old saying goes "Hind sight is better than fore sight" and as we are only human and not blessed with such, we are unable to do it again.

Both Marjorie and I have enjoyed traveling the District, meeting with you and getting to know you better and now calling you "OUR FRIENDS". It is an experience that one is afforded only a few times in ones life time and we will remember and cherish it forever.

As I was just saying to Harry, we will have to get together for an hour or so each month in the future for a few months to get out of the habit of getting together to work on the bulletin as we have done each month during this past year. It has been a lot of work, but enjoyable work for a good cause.

Now in closing, we extend a warm welcome to each of you to call us when you are in our City so that we can get together and discuss the good times we have had this past year.

Willard W. Verba, Past Secretary - Treasurer

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OBJECTS

To develop Optimism as a philosophy of life ; to promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs; to inspire respect for law; to promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people; to aid and encourage the development of youth.

"OUR THEME"

Well now, this is going to be the last article that I write for Over The Line as the Governor of the Iowa District.

It is really a time that I would like to spend in reminiscing over the past year. But I will not. There is still too much to do.

As you all know, our theme this year was PRIDE " Personal Responsibility In Daily Efforts ".

I felt from the very beginning the need for all of us to continually remember that as adults, this is the main function that we have and will have all the days that are left for man upon this planet we call " Earth ".

As we have gone from place to place and seen the interacting of Optimists in todays society the more the truth of this theme runs true. As I have visited with you, many of you have told me that you feel that the young people have appreciated the guidance we have offered and have accepted it as help and not as an attempt for one generation of people to control the other.

The great sea of happy faces of the children who have participated in our many and varied programs bear out the truth that our work is a good work.

The same happy faces that are rewarded through our many awards and scholarship programs bear out the truth that our young people like the idea of being rewarded for their particular accomplishments. Many of those who have lost in competition come back and try again and bear out the truth that our young Americans believe in and enjoy competition. They are not devastated by loss but pick up the gauntlet and "pass on to the greater achievements of the future". We believe in this idea! They have proven that they believe in this idea also.

Our young people have taught us a great lesson. They remain resilient and hopeful about life and we who sometimes tire in our efforts toward them, who sometimes wonder if it has been all worthwhile, who wonder if the seeds we've planted have taken root, can look back at these same young people and realize that we have been effective and hence we should never tire in the work that we are committed. There is much left to do. We have just started. Our communities and families call out to us to continue this endeavor that we are in. There is a need, we have the knowledge. This is the time for greater commitment and dedication to the service of " Personal Responsibility In Daily Efforts " - PRIDE.

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YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK - NOVEMBER 12th -18th

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WANTED - MEN TO OPERATE A YOUTH FACTORY

The need for community service and youth work is greater today than ever before. This need is being partially met by dedicated Optimists who believe and practice the objects of Optimism.

Tomorrow the need will still be there only it probably will be increased. And if the trend continues in the Iowa District, there will be fewer Optimists to meet the need.

Who will be the Optimists of tomorrow and how will we fulfill our obligation to tomorrow's youth?

Surely some of us will remain active and involved because we see the need and we derive satisfaction from helping others. However, some present day Optimists will pass from the scene for one reason or another. Who will replace these men? Who will accept the challenge that faces us?

The new members will be those qualified, capable citizens who are selected, screened and invited to join an Optimist Club. It may be an existing club or the new club that must be built to help serve our communities.

Information dealing with membership growth and new club building is available. For such information, please contact your Club President, your Lieutenant Governor, any District Chairman or write Optimist International. "Ask and you will receive".

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"FRIEND OF YOUTH AWARD"

Reports as received to date indicate that only 20 clubs in the Iowa District received the "Friend Of Youth Award". This is less than one half of the clubs in the District and from all indications, many of you failed to make the necessary application for this award. Reported as having received the award were: Red Oak, Kalona, Maquoketa, Cedar Rapids, Sunrise Iowa City, Solon, Waterloo, Council Bluffs, Evening Dubuque, Denison, Sunrise Cedar Rapids, Evening Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Dubuque, Larchwood, Marshalltown, Morning Marshalltown, Ottumwa, Mt. Pleasant and Washington.

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SCRAP BOOK AWARDS MADE AT DISTRICT CONVENTION

Awards were presented at the District Convention in three different categories with the winners being: OPTIMIST CLUB OF LARCHWOOD in Group 1; OPTIMIST CLUB OF COUNCIL BLUFFS in Group 2; EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB OF CEDAR RAPIDS in Group 3. Less than one third of the clubs in the District submitted scrap books in the competition however those clubs that did take the time to prepare a book are all to be congratulated as it expressed the activities of their clubs during the past year.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT DISTRICT CONVENTION

WHEREAS, the Iowa District of Optimist International is in its eighth year of infancy and has been steadily increasing its activities in Youth Work and Community Service, and WHEREAS, the Iowa District of Optimist International has grown in seven years from 1148 members and 25 clubs to 2001 members and 48 clubs, and

WHEREAS, the Iowa District of Optimist International has had 21 Distinguished Presidents; 29 Honor Clubs; 14 Distinguished Lt. Governors and has made Honor District the last five years with five Distinguished Governors and three Regional silver bowls, and

WHEREAS, the Iowa District of Optimist International desires to continue to strive for greater attainments in the awards program and promote and spread Optimism, the Optimistic philosophy and the Optimist Creed throughout the entire State of Iowa by increasing the membership in all existing clubs and by building new Optimist Clubs in existing and new communities, and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the Iowa District, Harry Kral, and all elected and appointed officers and chairmen of the entire Iowa District of Optimist International are working extremely hard and devoting considerable personal time for the attainment of the goals of the Iowa District of Optimist International and to make Iowa a better State in which to live,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all Optimists of the Iowa District of Optimist International, gathered here at its eighth annual convention, at the Holiday Inn in Des Moines, Iowa on this 25th day of August, 1973, hereby rededicate ourselves to the goals of the Iowa District of Optimist International, and will each personally encourage and join all fellow Optimists, in an all out effort to make the fiscal year of 1972-1973 the greatest year in new club building and membership growth in the history of the Iowa District of Optimist International.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION ON MAILING BULLETINS

In addition to mailing your club bulletin as published to your Zone Lieutenant Governor, please forward one also to:

Charles W. Trussell, Governor
1200 Cheyenne Road N. W.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

Richard K. Cooper, Sec.-Treas.
810 First Avenue N. E.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402



JUST ARRIVED!

NEW MEMBERS reported on the September reports received were: DENISON - Mervin Fink, Raymond Moothart; LARCHWOOD - James Petermann, Jeffrey Callagher; ONAWA - Euedell Coleman; COUNCIL BLUFFS - Norm Trentmann; HI-NOON COUNCIL BLUFFS - George D. Weaver; RED OAK - Kenneth W. Hamman, Jerry Cullen, Ellis McCunn,

Robert Ruleman; MORNING MARSHALLTOWN - Dennis Eige; DES MOINES - Ronald Lenon; CEDAR RAPIDS - James Rayne, Dean Cox; THURSDAY CEDAR RAPIDS - Ronnie Beard; C.R.-MARION - Richard Phillips, Edward Kelly, Kenneth Beedle; SUNRISE CEDAR RAPIDS - Roger Higgins; HIWATHA - Gene S. Parker; CORALVILLE - Rex Brandstatter, Robert Johnston; IOWA CITY - William Clark; SUNRISE IOWA CITY - Kieth Walter, Richard Wilson; NORTH LIBERTY - Fred Charbon, Gary Chipman, Timothy Dorr, William Hohn, Paul Morsch, Melvin Schemmel; SOLON - James Stahle, James Devine, Bernard Erenberger, Gene Erenberger, Robert Hach, Dennis Erenberger, Louis J. Kral, Edward Dvorak, Joe Kral, Karl Kasjeans, Louis R. Kral, Rev. Louis Zee, Ronald Hendricks; KALONA - Pete Buffer, John Wallerich, Harlan Stubbs, Harold Moore, Clifford Small, Russell Groat, Lambert Neill, Wilson Miller, Ray Marner; MT. PLEASANT - Clifford Nelson; OTTUMWA - Larry Joiner, L. O. Sykes; WASHINGTON - Richard K. Bean, Rick Davis, Myron Graber; DUBUQUE - Joe Buchheit, Douglas Stetzer, David Chesney, William Kohler; EVENING DUBUQUE - Thad Gavin, Scott Gill, Steve Scott, Michael Spates; MAQUOKETA - Wesley Etheridge, Keith Cueno, Robert Griffiths; BETTENDORF - Larry Makoben; DAVENPORT - Donald Shaw; BREAKFAST DAVENPORT - Harold Clearman.

The Iowa District wishes to extend a cordial welcome to the above mentioned and THANK YOU to the men who invited them to join. Membership realized its largest growth for this current year during the month of September when 75 men were added to the roles of existing clubs. With the 85 men at Little Rock and the anticipated 70 at Ely, this will make the membership count for September be 221. We did realize 15 deletions on the September reports from 6 clubs which brought the total deletions for the year to 456 men cut from existing clubs in the Iowa District. Via new club building and enrollment in our existing clubs the District has 563 new members - THINK WHAT A STRONG DISTRICT WE WOULD HAVE IF IT WERE POSSIBLE TO RETAIN ALL OF THE DELETED MEN !!

YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK- NOVEMBER 12th -18th

The Youth Appreciation Week kits have been sent to all clubs by Optimist International and should have been given by the Club President upon receipt to his chairman. If your club has not received the kit, please notify Optimist International immediately.

For the clubs which have the kit - start your plans now if your program has not already been put into motion. One of the first things your Youth Appreciation committee should do is contact the mayor or city manager and request a proclamation designating November 12th - 18th as Youth Appreciation Week. A sample proclamation is in the manual.

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ATTENTION: CLUB SECRETARY - TREASURERS !

When a member of your club changes his address it is most important that the change be noted on the next Club Monthly Report submitted to the International Office. This notification must be placed in Section E of the report and not only will this insure that the Office has his correct address - it will insure receipt of the monthly Optimist Magazine.

A \$ 7.50 processing fee must accompany the Club Monthly Report for each name of a new member placed in Section A. These new members are entitled to a new member kit which are sent to the club secretary-treasurer upon receipt of the report with the names of the new members. If new members are reported but with less than \$ 7.50 each submitted, then the Office will process only as many of the new members as there is money submitted.

BE ALERT - COMPLETE YOUR REPORT CORRECTLY !!

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ARE YOUR OPTIMIST ROAD SIGNS CORRECT & DATED?

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CLUB PRESIDENTS - ARE YOUR MATERIALS IN USE ?

Club Presidents for 1973/74 should have received the necessary materials for: presidents, secretary-treasurers, community service committee, youth activities committee, new club committee and membership committee. If you have not received the aforementioned kits for each of your committee people, notify Optimist International immediately.

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YOUTH APPRECIATION WEEK - NOVEMBER 12th-18th

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(Year-end standings -- Based on September Monthly Reports received through October 22, 1973)

REGIONAL COMPETITION -- 1972/73

VICE PRESIDENT FAIRALL

District	New Club Building			Life Membership (x)			Membership				Avg. %	District Rank
	Quota	Clubs		Quota	Sales	Per Cent Attained	Net Quota	Net Gain		% Attained Or Lost		
		Org'd	Per Cent Attained					Or Loss	Or Lost			
KAN	5	7	140.0	30	33	50.0	125	217	173.60	121.2	10*	
COWY	5	8	160.0	23	38	50.0	154	169	109.74	106.6	12	
IOWA	4	4	100.0	17	18	50.0	103	108	104.85	85.0	17	
NEB	4	3	75.0	15	15	50.0	100	- 61	- 3.35	40.6	27	
NMWTX	4	2	50.0	11	16	50.0	100	- 94	- 7.48	30.8	29	
Regional Average Percentage... 76.8												

VICE PRESIDENT WILLINGHAM

MD	5	9	180.0	30	35	50.0	166	252	151.81	127.3	7*
GA	6	11	183.3	20	25	50.0	150	217	144.67	126.0	8
CAPVA	4	5	125.0	13	14	50.0	143	65	45.45	73.5	20
NC	5	4	80.0	43	36	41.9	275	-391	-	38.1	28
SC	4	0	0.0	10	6	30.0	110	14	12.73	14.2	37
Regional Average Percentage. . .											75.8

VICE PRESIDENT SNYDER

QUMA	7	17	242.9	39	57	50.0	175	345	197.14	163.3	5*
NJ	4	5	125.0	9	13	50.0	100	115	115.00	96.7	13
DEPA	5	2	40.0	23	25	50.0	128	- 27	- 1.07	29.6	30
WPA	3	1	33.3	5	4	40.0	96	- 8	- 1.35	24.0	33
NY	4	1	25.0	8	16	50.0	100	- 87	- 8.89	22.0	35
Regional Average Percentage . .											67.1

VICE PRESIDENT BEANLAND

CALSO	4	6	150.0	12	18	50.0	100	214	214.00	138.0	6*
PACSW	8	12	150.0	53	55	50.0	256	159	62.10	87.4	15
PACNW	5	3	60.0	16	15	46.8	163	94	57.67	54.8	26
PACC	7	3	42.8	23	25	50.0	175	-148	- 5.44	29.1	32
ARIZ	4	0	0.0	10	6	30.0	143	-221	- 17.61	4.1	39
Regional Average Percentage. . .											62.7

NOTE: Clubs formed across district lines have been subtracted from the district in which they were formed and added to the district that sponsored them, in accordance with OI Awards policies.

(Year-end standings -- Based on September Monthly Reports received through October 24, 1973)
REGIONAL COMPETITION -- 1972/73

VICE PRESIDENT CHAPMAN

District	New Club Building			Life Membership (x)			Membership				Avg. %	District Rank
	Quota	Clubs	Per Cent	Quota	Sales	Per Cent	Net Quota	Net Gain	% Attained	Or Lost		
		Org'd	Attained		Attained	Or Loss		Or Lost				
ONT	5	12	240.0	31	32	50.0	191	412	215.71	168.6	3*	
DSMM	4	9	225.0	16	19	50.0	142	320	225.35	166.8	4	
WIS	5	4	80.0	23	23	50.0	199	184	92.46	74.2	18	
AMS	4	3	75.0	11	17	50.0	103	80	77.67	67.6	23	
Regional Average Percentage... 119.3**												

VICE PRESIDENT BAKER

ARK	4	16	400.0	11	24	50.0	101	536	530.69	326.9	1*
SETX	5	8	160.0	21	31	50.0	158	208	131.65	113.9	11
NTX	5	2	40.0	30	39	50.0	180	- 88	- 2.51	29.2	31
SCTX	7	1	14.2	24	30	50.0	185	-137	- 4.87	19.8	36
OKLA	4	0	0.0	12	13	50.0	100	-252	- 16.17	11.3	38
Regional Average Percentage. . . 100.2											

VICE PRESIDENT MITCHELL

OHIO	6	16	226.7	33	38	50.0	180	579	321.67	199.5	2*
IND	6	7	116.7	46	52	50.0	213	216	101.41	89.4	14
MICH	5	7	140.0	29	32	50.0	221	157	71.04	87.0	16
MO	7	9	128.6	49	51	50.0	175	-122	- 2.10	58.8	25
ILL	5	1	20.0	25	27	50.0	155	- 37	- 1.25	22.9	34
Regional Average Percentage. . . 91.5											

VICE PRESIDENT SILVERMAN

TENN	6	9	150.0	31	34	50.0	150	251	167.33	122.4	9*
KYWVA	6	7	116.7	25	25	50.0	150	82	54.67	73.8	19
LA	4	4	100.0	12	12	50.0	126	74	58.73	69.6	21
FLA	7	11	157.1	48	56	50.0	175	- 54	- .92	68.7	22
ALMS	4	3	75.0	13	17	50.0	148	86	58.11	61.0	24
Regional Average Percentage. . . 79.1											

(x) 50% of Total Attained in LM. (Maximum credit for LM is Quota)
* Top District in Region (Regions, and districts within the region,
** Top Region are listed in order of percentage attained)

PAST GOVERNOR'S THOUGHTS - Harry Kral - 8th GOVERNOR - IOWA DISTRICT

On October 1, 1972, when I assumed my duties as Governor, I envisioned a beautiful green mountain with a winding trail leading to the top. The mountain became a symbol to me, not of insurmountable responsibility and effort, but of attainable accomplishment and reward. So, in the true spirit of Optimism, and with the theme "PRIDE" - Personal Responsibility In Daily Efforts - I began my journey.

The unsurpassed joy and fulfillment of being allowed to climb the mountain was shared along the way by my loyal companion and guide - my lovely wife, Bernice.

It was a long hike, but a great one ! There were a few spots along the trail which were a little bumpy to step over, but it never got too rough to keep going. For I knew that, at the end, I would be rewarded with a sight few of us get to see - - the panoramic view of Optimism which awaits all of us at the summit.

Each Zone and Club visitation was a shady rest area on our enjoyable journey up the mountain. Each member we met along the way made us feel like we were walking on air. And then on March 19, 1973, when the Daybreak Optimist Club of Cedar Rapids sprouted up along the way with 37 new members, the path of Optimism became smoother, and each step became lighter because of the sturdy support of the District Officers and Optimists of the District, such as the ones of the Evening Optimist Club of Cedar Rapids which sponsored the first new club, which cheered us on our way.

There weren't an overabundance of new clubs built during the year however, they were good sturdy clubs and much is expected of them in the coming years of the Iowa District. A 45 member club was organized at North Liberty on April 24, 1973 by the Optimist Club of Solon and then with the push on during the final month of our year, Larchwood was successful in completing an 85 man club on September 18, 1974 at Little Rock. Pushing to the very end, the Optimist Club of Kalona on the 26th of September, 1973, had the Optimist Club of Ely commissioned by Doctor Ray Rembolt with 73 members. With the building of the 2 new clubs in September and realizing 158 new members in these 2 clubs plus the work of the other clubs in the District on signing new members during the final month, we were able to achieve all of the goals set forth by Optimist International resulting in the Iowa District ranking third in the Region and 17th in Optimist International.

At the end of our trek, when we jogged to the top and reached the summit, looking at the enormous sweep of Optimism around us we knew the trip was well worth it.

Again, my thanks to everyone in the Iowa District for sending Bernice and me to the top of the mountain. It's been the most educational and rewarding year of our lives. It seemed that all members gave us their support - their dedication - and their hearts. There is so much to be done in the Iowa District but we now have so much more to do it with.

The Iowa District is like the television commercial says, " We're not getting OLDER - - - we're Getting BETTER " ! And we're going to KEEP getting BETTER until all of Optimist International knows we're the BEST !