

HOWARD CROFOOT (HD)

Slogan: ***"Bringing out the Best in Kids, in their Communities and in Themselves"***

Welcome to the SWIS District website. It is an honor to be selected as Governor for the SWIS District for the 2015-2016 Optimist year. In keeping with the Optimist International theme, Optimists bring out the best in kids, in their communities and in themselves.

Governor's Update

Our strength is in our clubs. I want to strengthen the clubs in our District so we can do more for the kids.

The theme, Optimists bring out the best in kids, in their communities and in themselves is a powerful message. Every time an Optimist is doing a project, the Optimist is bringing out the best in the kids served. This, in turn, helps us bring out the best in our communities by providing those positive experiences for the kids. Optimists have the opportunity to network with Optimists and others in the community while helping kids. As Optimists we also have the opportunity to improve ourselves by being a member, by working on a project, by leading other Optimists in completing a project, by chairing committees in charge of many projects, and serving in leadership positions from Club level to International level. Please ask a friend to join to help your club with projects that help kids, the community and their own personal growth.

Our signature project, the Oratorical scholarship competition, is expanding. In past years, an Oratorical contestant could win at the "District" level, earning a \$2,500 scholarship. This year the Oratorical contest is expanding and the District winner will go forward to compete against other District winners for the title of "World" champion and earn a maximum of \$22,500 in scholarships. The topic for this coming year's contest is **"How My Best Brings Out the Best in Others."** I hope this will encourage many students to participate. It would be a wonderful "problem" to have if every club needed more help running an Oratorical contest for the many kids who want to compete!

**Optimistically,
Howard Crofoot
SWIS Governor 2015-2016**