

St Louis Mid-City Optimist Club

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Dear Friends in Optimism,

Donna and I had the privilege of attending last weekends District Convention, and I take this opportunity to congratulate Loretta Kelly, John Strickland and Dennis Desmond for their leadership in making this conference happen.

TO LORETTA, as Governor, you and your great team (I won't try to give names because I'd surely miss someone and feel bad) DESERVE A GREAT HAND OF APPLAUSE!

The meeting was obviously well-planned; it was conducted smoothly; and was effective in all aspects. Thank you and your team. ALL!

TO JOHN, as Governor, you, also DESERVE A GREAT HAND OF APPLAUSE!

The training sessions appeared to be well-done; and your commentaries and directions during the meeting showed diligent planning and good insight. Thank you and your team. ALL!

TO DENNIS, I don't think we can give you enough praise and thanks for your leadership role in the meeting. I would best describe your presence with us as being the Glue that held it all together. Thank you and Elsie for all you have done -- and continue to do -- for EMO and the cause of Optimism.

TO EMO OPTIMISTS: It was -- as always-- a joy to share with you who were in attendance. I am so thankful for the opportunity of joining you regularly to socialize, look back, plan for the future and learn together

And, you know that I missed seeing those of you who could not make it, this time. I know -- from remembering times that I have missed -- that there are other things that get in life, and particularly want those of you who have health concerns to know that you are in our prayers for comfort and healing and early return to our company.

In late October, we get another chance to gather...and I look forward to seeing you at the Crowne Plaza at that time. There is no time like the present to mark our calendars. **My notes list that meeting for October 22-23.**

TO ALL: We have thirty-three days left to make our mark in 2009-2010, and to our our dear friend Loretta to complete her year "on as roll."

Please join me in doing all we can to bring the year to a Great Completion, by living the words of the Optimist Creed, in order to fulfill the Purposes of the Optimists.

When we do that, our own lives AND the world itself will be better.

Peace, Ben

One Footnote: I spoke with Ken Monschein last night and he is home from the hospital with good news regarding his health issues....and on the way back to full participation with us. Praise God! Ben