

# Optimist International Convention



# Optimist International Convention



## **CO/WY Optimist District Ambassadors to Int'l Convention & Members of OI Int'l Convention Committee**



Gunar & Charlie Neumann

Club: DTC

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# 104<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention



30 JUN – 03 JUL 2022  
Silver Legacy Resort Casino  
Reno, NV

## RECAP

# Optimist International 2022 Convention

## In-Person Registrants as of 10 JUL 2022<sup>\*</sup>

Total In-Person Registrants: 481<sup>\*\*</sup>

CO/WY Optimist District In-Person Registrants: 16<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>OI Convention Website did not show # of Virtual Registrants

Max # of Zoom Participants observed by Gunar Neumann:  
39 during Opening Session on 01 JUL 2022

<sup>\*\*</sup> ~1% of OI Membership

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> ~1.5% of CO/WY District Membership

# Optimist International 2022 Convention

## Credentials Committee Report at 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session (Saturday, 02 JUL 2022)

Clubs Qualified to Cast Votes:	261*
Total Votes:	1007
Total Accredited Delegates:	327

\* ~12% of OI Adult Clubs

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

**Opening Ceremony at National Bowling Stadium**



National Bowling Stadium

**Heritage of Optimism Brunch  
at National Automobile Museum**



National Automobile Museum

**Cornhole Tournaments**

**District Dinners**

**Trivia Night**

**Int'l President's Banquet & Ball**

**Exhibits in House of Optimism**

**Exchange of ideas / Fellowship**

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

Canada Day Celebration – 01 JUL 2022





# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

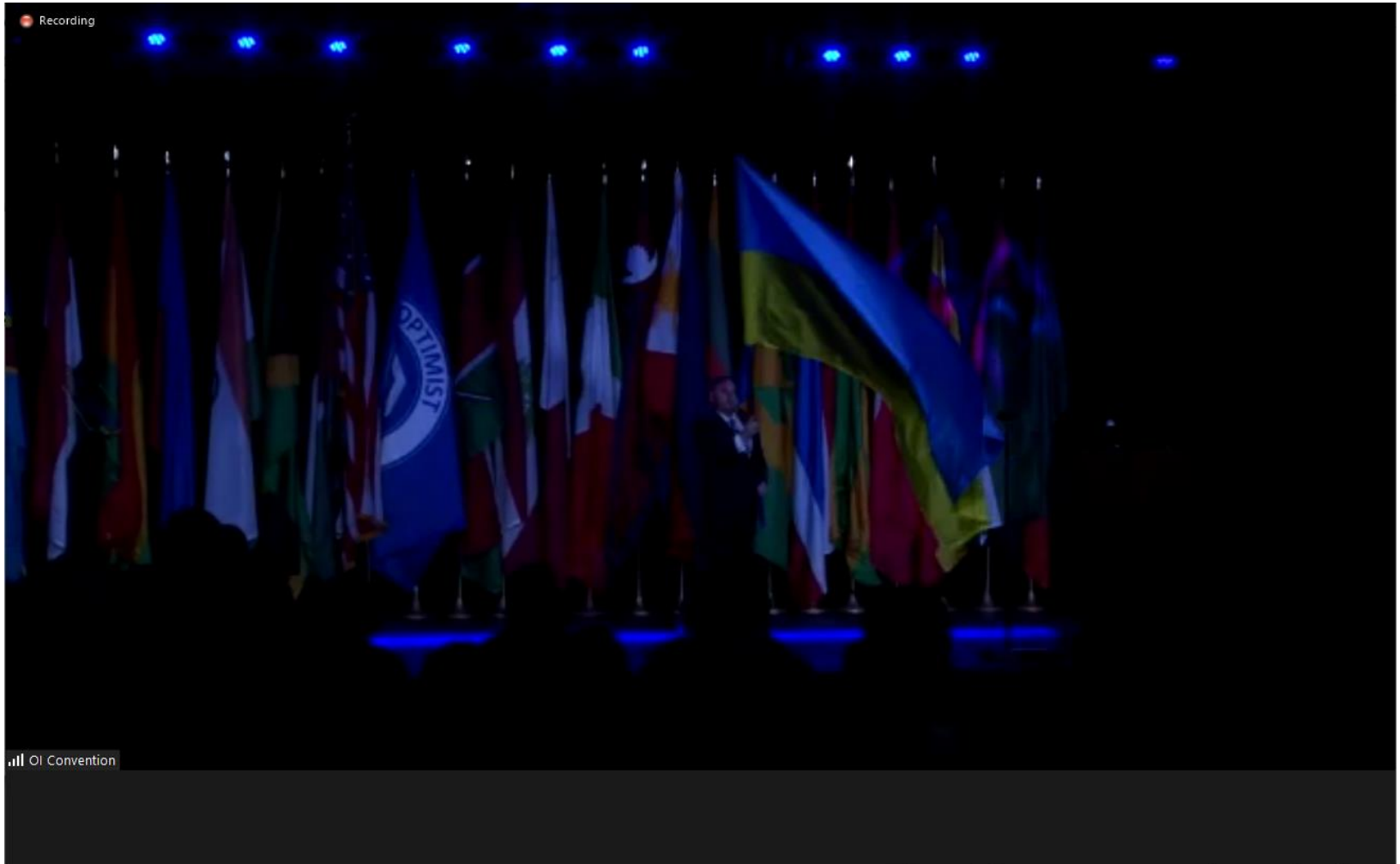
Tribute to Past Int'l Presidents lost since 2021 Int'l Convention





# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Tribute to Ukraine



# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## 2022-2023 Scholarship Topics (posted to OI Website)

- Oratorical Contest / CCDHH:  
“Discovering the Optimism within Me”



- Essay Contest:  
“Who is an Everyday Hero that Brings Out the Optimism in You?”



# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

Recognition of Optimist Clubs with >100 Years of Service



**OI President Patsy Garner**



## OPTIMIST CLUBS OVER 100 YEARS IN SERVICE

DETROIT-DOWNTOWN, MICHIGAN	3/1/1922	100
EVANSVILLE, INDIANA	5/13/1921	101
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA	9/1/1921	101
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE	12/18/1920	102
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA	3/1/1917	105
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	4/1/1916	106
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	5/1/1916	106
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY	7/1/1916	106
→ MILE-HI DENVER, COLORADO	9/1/1916	106
ST LOUIS, MISSOURI	9/8/1916	106
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN	10/1/1916	106

# **2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights**

## **Training for District Officer-Elects/Designates:**

**Governor**

**Lt Governor**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

## **Training for Club Officer-Elects/Designates:**

**President**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

## **Training for District Chair-Designates:**

**Communication, Marketing, and Technology**

**Leadership Development**

**Membership**

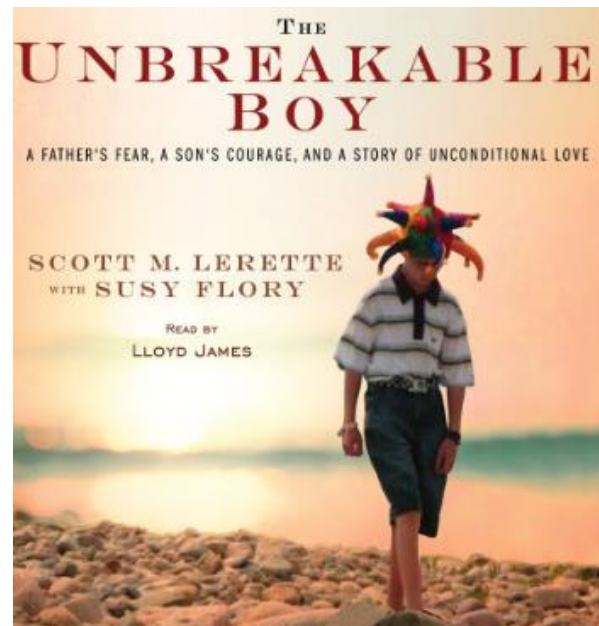
**New Club Building**

## **Workshops**

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Keynote Speaker Scott LeRette:

- “ordinary man with an extraordinary son”
- Scott & his wife, Teresa, have two teen sons, Austin & Logan. Both Teresa & Austin suffer from Osteogenesis Imperfecta, also known as brittle bone disease.
- Author of “*The Unbreakable Boy*”



**Town Hall with International Board of Directors**  
**Business Sessions**

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Town Hall with OI Board of Directors

- Main topic was Issue 2 (Proposed \$15 Dues Increase)
  - Audience questions
    - Has OI considered establishing endowment to cover OI costs instead of raising dues?
      - OI Exec Director Cheryl Brenn's Response:
        - OI looking at all options for non-dues revenue
    - Has OI considered splitting dues increase into increments instead of all at once?
      - OI Pres-Elect Bob McFadyen's Response:
        - OI has lost members for past 30 years
        - Incremental increase is not practical
        - \$15 increase intended to offset projected deficit & invest in future
    - Can OI consider billing dues annually instead of quarterly?
      - OI Audit & Finance Chair Sandi Schmidt's Response:
        - OI will lose money if OI bills annually at start of Optimist Year and if clubs grow throughout year



# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Town Hall with OI Board of Directors

- Main topic was Issue 2 (Proposed \$15 Dues Increase)
  - Audience questions cont.
    - Can OI Foundation gift 3-7% to OI?
      - OI Exec Director Cheryl Brenn's Response:
        - OI Foundation helps offset some OI administrative costs
        - It is up to OIF to decide how to spend their funds
      - OI Foundation Pres Marc Katz' Response:
        - OI Foundation is giving ~\$250,000 to OI for 2022-2023 Optimist Year
  - OI Pres Patsy Garner's points
    - OI Members do not pay OI or district dues → Clubs do
    - Clubs do not need to pass on dues increase to members
    - Clubs can fundraise to offset dues increase
    - OI is looking at all membership categories to determine equitable dues structure

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Town Hall with OI Board of Directors

- Other topics
  - Audience questions
    - Issue 8: Why raise minimum number of members required to charter new club from 15 to 20?
      - OI Pres Patsy Garner's Response:
        - New clubs lose ~20% of members in first 3-6 months so starting with 20 members improves new club's chances of success
    - Who does OI notify when clubs are in arrears?
      - OI Pres Patsy Garner's Response:
        - Clubs that reach 60 days in arrears: OI will notify Club Pres, Sec, Treas, & applicable Lt Gov
        - Clubs that reach 90 days in arrears: In addition to notifying Club Pres, Sec, Treas, & applicable Lt Gov, OI will notify Club Pres-Elect, Sec-Designate, Treas-Designate, & applicable Lt Gov-Elect

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### OI Bylaws Amendments Proposed by OI Board of Directors

Issue 1 - Special Needs / Adults With Exceptionalities Clubs

Withdrawn by OI BoD

Issue 2 - Optimist International Dues Increase

Passed → Clubs can raise dues, fundraise, or absorb increase  
→ Clubs need to review their bylaws & policies

Issue 3 - Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA)

Tabled until 2023 Int'l Convention

Issue 4 - Elections By Acclamation

Passed

Issue 5 - Announcement of Candidates for International Office

Passed

Issue 6 - District Secretary and/or Treasurer

Passed

Issue 7 - International Board of Directors Definition & Quorum

Passed

Issue 8 - Minimum Membership for New Clubs

Failed

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### OI Exec Director Cheryl Brenn

- Many of OI's practices are outdated
- OI is developing new processes & will eliminate those that no longer serve OI
- OI will develop new digital footprint & will clean up OI website
- Optimist Institute is the new Learning Management System (LMS)
- We need to acknowledge challenges before us
- We are at a turning point in our organization
- We need to take critical look at all we do



# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

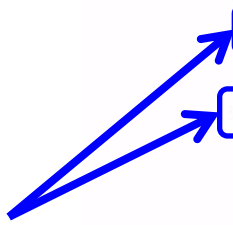
### CO/WY Optimist District Recognition

#### Optimist Leadership Academy

(Held 28 JUN 2022)

- William Graves
- Lorna Moseley-Grant
- William Ashbee
- Kay-Ann Wiggan
- Mary Grace Wake
- Yvonne Purcell
- Patrice Hanson
- Phyllis Neff
- Shane Neuman

**CO/WY  
Honorees**



**CO/WY Honorees**



- 25- Irene Gartz
- 25- Steven Gorrell
- 25- Donald Stumpf
- 29- Nancy Boyd
- 32- Kirk Farnsworth
- 33- Kenneth Bollinger Jr
- 34- Donald Moon
- 35- Faith Clover
- 35- Terry Gorman
- 35- Greg Honl
- 35- Denny Smith
- 36- Renee Kerckhoff
- 36- Deneen Wise
- 36- Brian Mills

#### US Members:

- Sponsor: +2 NEW members
- OIF: Unrestricted donation \$43 (21 + 22)

#### 212 Member Recognition

- 37- Michael Fincham
- 37- Dale Fox
- 38- Cassie Ahearn
- 38- Diane Clark
- 40- Rebecca Butler-Mona
- 40- Susan Enewold
- 40- Barbara Robertson
- 40- James Boyd
- 40- Dale Robertson
- 43- Linda Shepherd
- 60- Vi Hayworth
- 78- Krystal Corbett



**CO/WY Optimist District → Highest % of convention registrants of any district**

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### Introduction of 2023-2024 OI Leadership Team

**'23-'24 Int'l President Tracy Huxley**



**'23-'24 SW Region Vice-President Kevin Ailara**





# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### Introduction of 2022-2023 OI Leadership Team

Int'l President Bob McFadyen

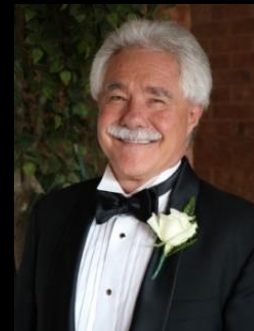


The Southwest Region



Vice-President Linda McDonald

Colorado / Wyoming District



Governor Tony Carpenter

# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### 2022-2023 OI President Bob McFadyen

#### Highlights from “Acceptance Speech”:

- **OI Membership → Peak: ~155,000 members in 1990  
Current: ~53,000 members in 2022**
- **5 Purposes of an Optimist Club have been OI's focus since 1919**
  - To develop optimism as a philosophy of life utilizing the tenets of the Optimist Creed
  - To promote an active interest in good government and civic affairs
  - To inspire respect for the law
  - To promote patriotism and work for international accord and friendship among all people
  - To aid and encourage the development of youth, in the belief that the giving of one's self in service to others will advance the well-being of humankind, community life and the world.
- **Our society today is where our society was 100 years ago facing same challenges**
  - **War, Pandemic, Immigration, Social Unrest, etc.**



# 2022 Optimist Int'l Convention Highlights

## Business Sessions

### 2022-2023 OI President Bob McFadyen

#### Highlights from “Acceptance Speech”:

- ~41% of our population volunteers actively
- ~86 million Baby Boomers in Canada & USA
- **Benefits of being an Optimist**



#### Benefits of Being an Optimist



- Service to Youth
  - Friendships
  - Personal Fulfillment
  - Enhanced Wellbeing
  - Inspiring Others
  - Science: optimists are healthier, happier and more successful, bounce back faster, live longer
- **Why are we choosing to deprive our friends of opportunity to get involved in optimism and make a positive difference in lives of children? That's what we're doing when we don't ask them to join us**
  - **Choose Optimism & invite someone to join us in our favorite activity / club event**

# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention



02-05 JUL 2023

Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport  
Arlington, VA

# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

Arlington, Virginia,  
is Pleased to Welcome You!

Optimist International Convention 2023  
July 2-5, 2023  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City



Insert link to Convention 2023 Promo Video



# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

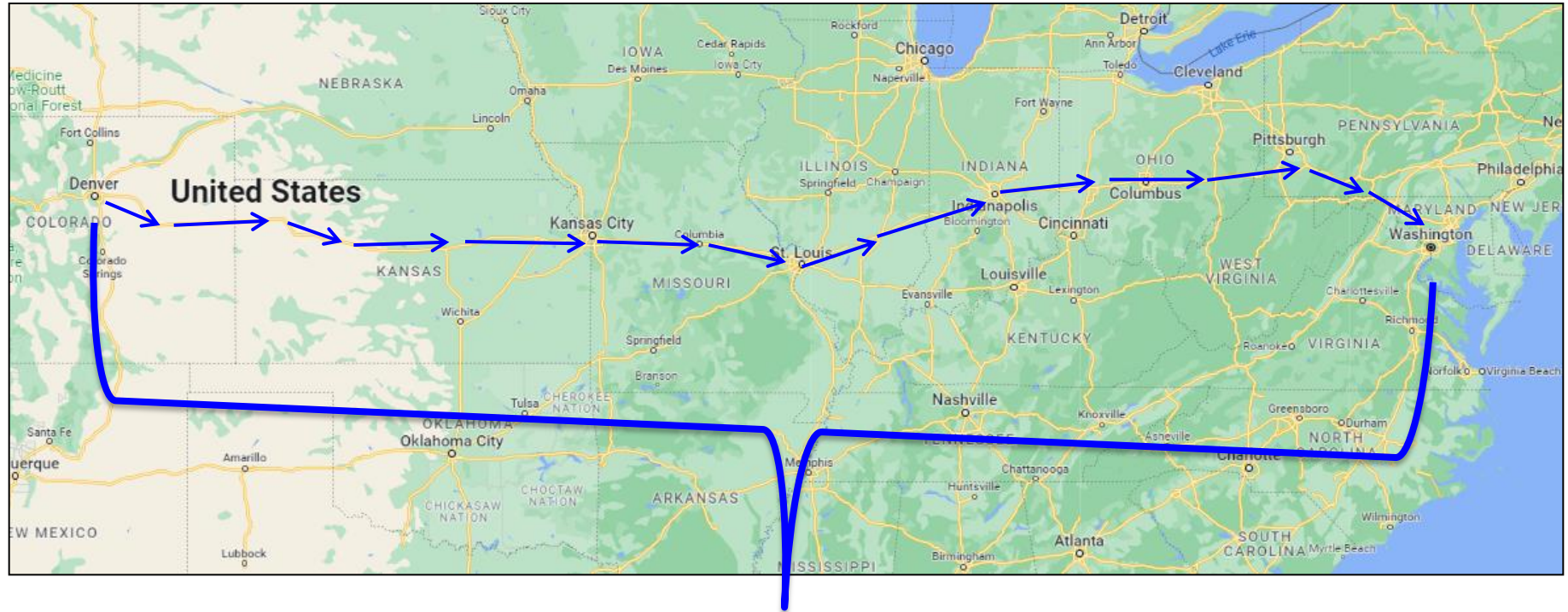
02-05 JUL 2023

Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport  
Arlington, VA





# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention



**Arlington, VA is ~1670 miles E of Denver via I-70/I-270/I-495  
(~26 hr drive)**

**02 – 05 JUL 2023  
Arlington, VA**

# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

## Sample Airline Routings (AUG 2022)

Denver - Washington DC - Denver → **Nonstops** offered by:

Frontier → **Washington Reagan National**

United → *Washington Dulles*, **Washington Reagan National**,  
*Baltimore/Washington*

Southwest → *Baltimore/Washington*, *Washington Dulles*

(Southwest → Via connections to Washington Reagan National)

### Other Options:

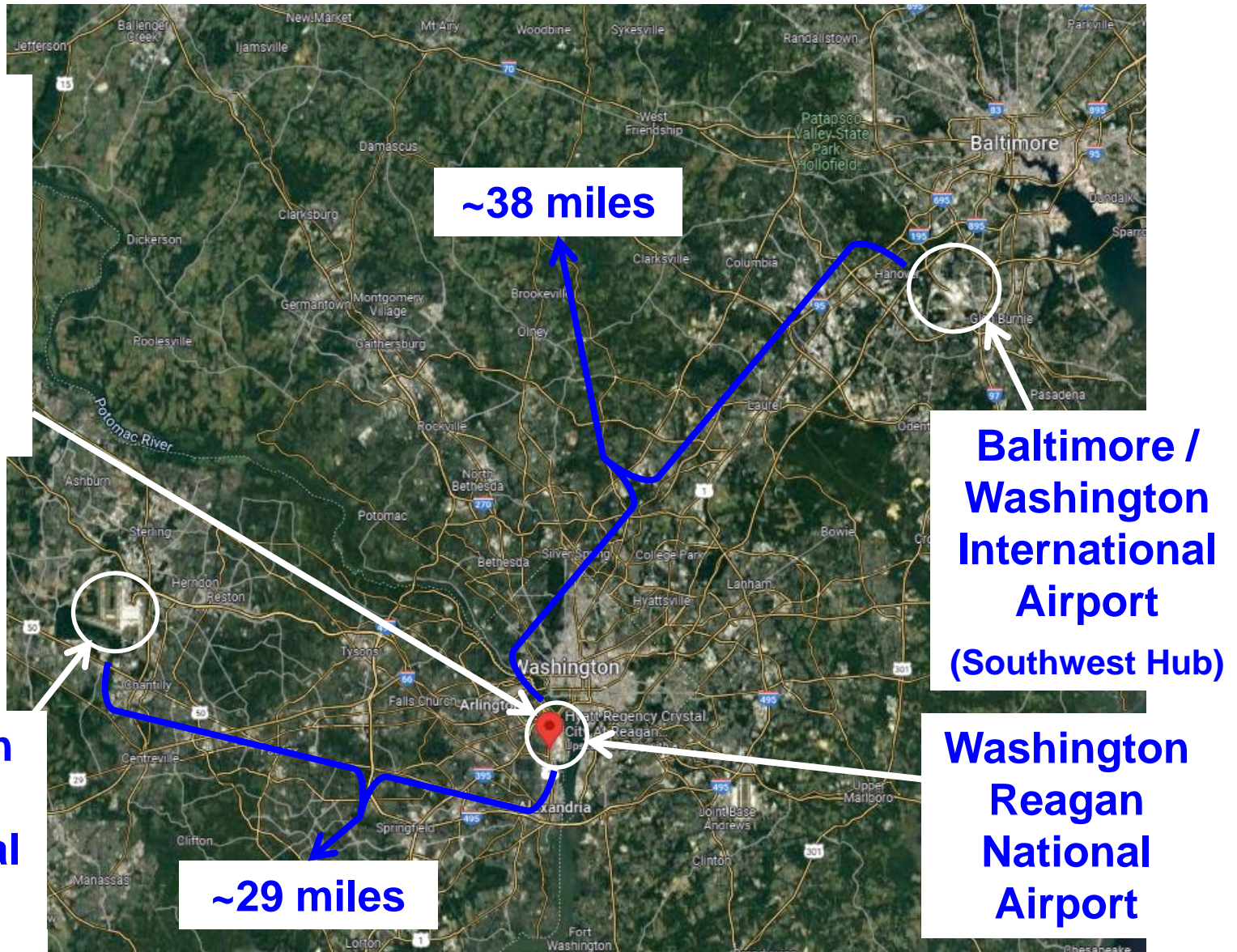
- Amtrak (via Chicago → ~42 hours: California Zephyr / Capitol Limited)
- Greyhound (via Philadelphia → ~43¾ hours)
- Car



# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

**Hyatt  
Regency  
Crystal  
City at  
Reagan  
National  
Airport**

**Washington  
Dulles  
International  
Airport  
(United Hub)**

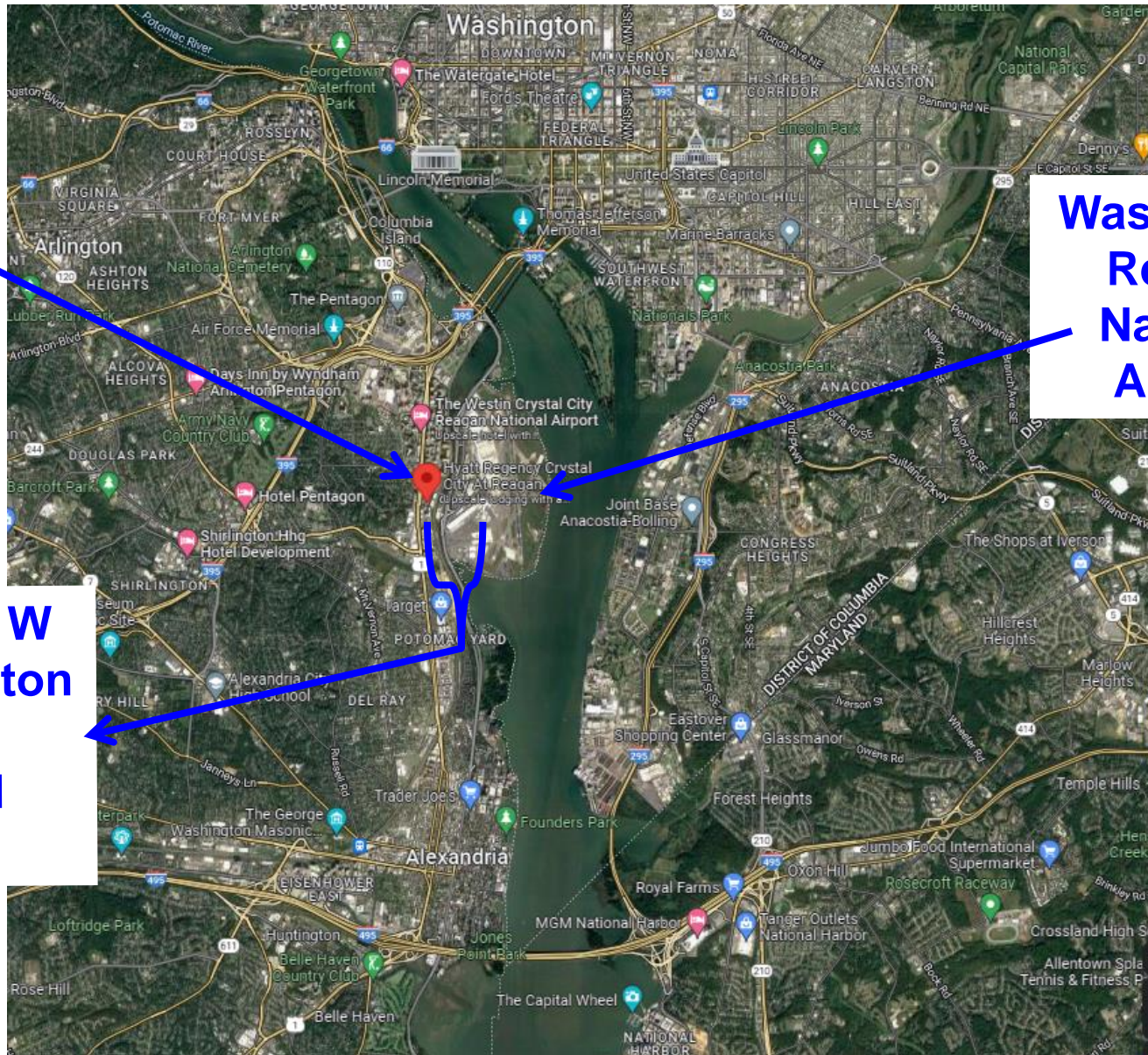




# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

Hyatt  
Regency  
Crystal  
City at  
Reagan  
National  
Airport

~0.2 miles W  
of Washington  
Reagan  
National  
Airport

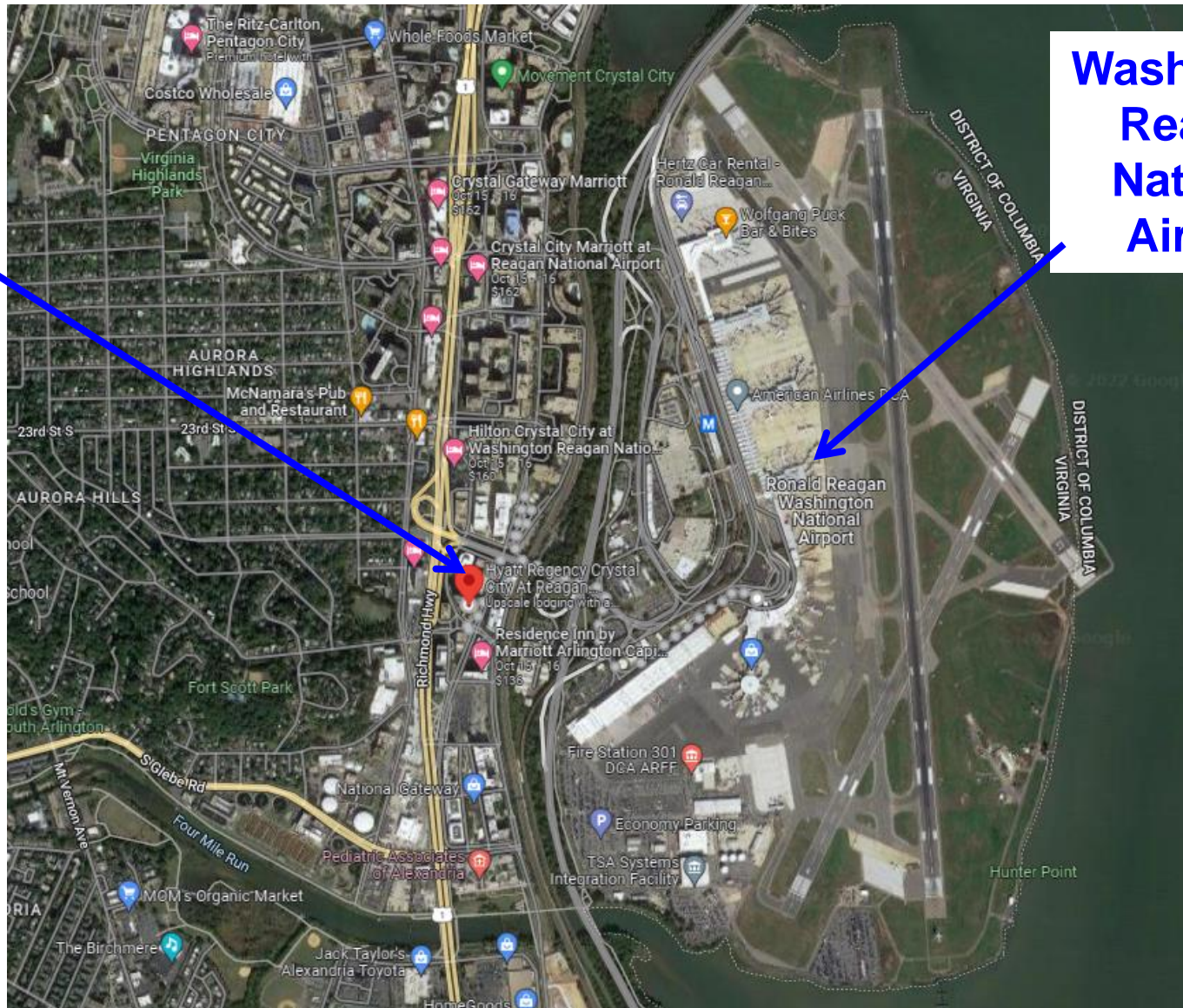


Washington  
Reagan  
National  
Airport



# 105<sup>th</sup> Optimist International Convention

Hyatt  
Regency  
Crystal  
City at  
Reagan  
National  
Airport

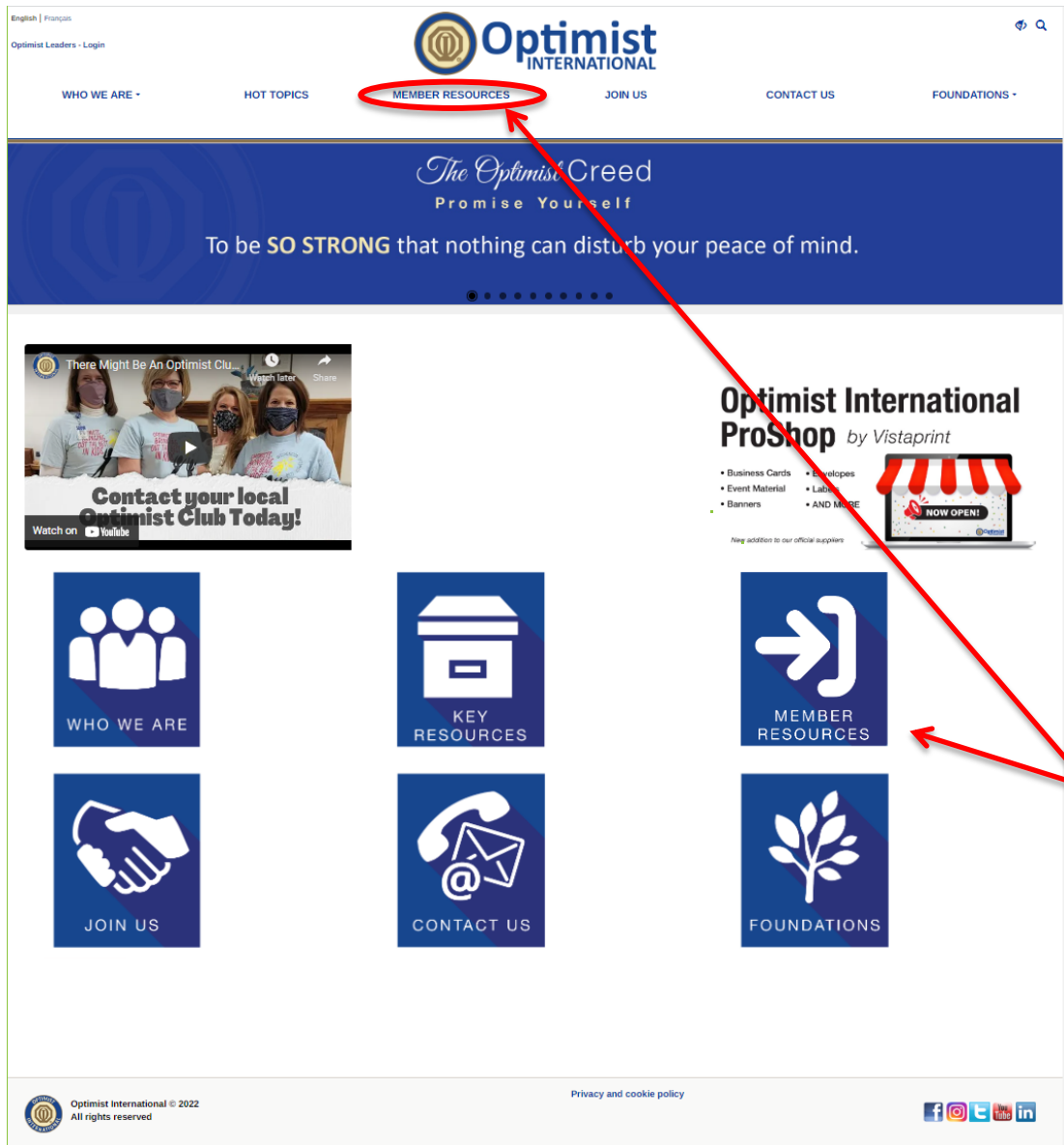


Washington  
Reagan  
National  
Airport

For latest Convention info, go to International Convention Website 31

# Start with Optimist International (OI) Web Site

<https://optimist.org>



Select  
"MEMBER RESOURCES"  
to get to International  
Convention website



# Optimist International (OI) Web Site

<https://optimist.org/member/membersmenu.cfm>

## Member Resources

English | Français

Optimist Leaders - Login

**Optimist INTERNATIONAL**

WHO WE ARE • HOT TOPICS MEMBER RESOURCES JOIN US CONTACT US FOUNDATIONS •

*The Optimist Creed*  
Promise Yourself

To talk **HEALTH, HAPPINESS** and **PROSPERITY** to every person you meet.

Welcome Members

**About**

- Mission, Vision & Purpose
- Optimist Creed
- History of Optimist International
- International Headquarters Staff Directory
- International Leaders
- 2022 Officer and Board Directors Election
- History: OI Dreams and Deeds
- 2021-22 International Bylaws
- 2022-23 Bylaw Amendment Proposals Results
- Funding For The Future
- International Board Policies

**Administration & Tax Information**

- ACH Debit
- Background Checks
- Dues and Fees
- Online Payment Instructions
- National Association of Parliamentarians
- Insurance
- New Abuse & Molestation Coverage for US Clubs
- Reinstatement of Tax-Exempt Status
- Tax Exempt Letter
- Tax Filing Information for Clubs
- 2020-21 OI Audited Consolidated Financial Statement

**Latest News**

**Optimist Town**

Updated as of October 01, 2021  
**COVID-19 Letter to Clubs and Districts**

Celebrate Community Joint Statement Press Release

Service Organizations Joint Statement

Summary of Board Actions

OptiForum - Mar 2024

The Optimist Winter 2022 Magazine

Leadership Hotline

Optimist Calendar

**International Directory**

Optimist International Directory 2021 - 2022

Club Directory

- by Country/State/Province
- by District
- by Region

**Reports**

- Scoreboard
- Leaderboard

**District Information**

District Domain Directory 2021 - 2022

**Club Resources**

- Document Library
- Benchmark Club Projects
- Club Resource Videos
- W.O.W. - Welcome Optimists Worldwide Program
- Optimist Leadership Orientation To Optimism Series
- Optimist International Field Guide 2021
- Youth Sports Coaches & Parent Training
- ClubUX: Approved Website Vendor

**Scroll Down**

# Optimist International (OI) Web Site

<https://optimist.org/member/membersmenu.cfm>

## Member Resources

English | Français

Optimist Leaders - Login

**Optimist INTERNATIONAL**

WHO WE ARE • HOT TOPICS MEMBER RESOURCES JOIN US CONTACT US FOUNDATIONS •

### Member Services

- Projects
- Kids
- New Club Building
- Welcome New Clubs
- Recruitment & Retention - W.O.W. Program
- Sponsor a Member
- Types of Membership
- International Development News
- Recognition and Awards (ICD-135) (effective 10/1/2020)
- Tracking Forms for Club Presidents & Governors

### Meetings & Convention

Never too early...  
Visit RenoTahoe.com

- International Convention
- Junior Optimist International
- Optimist Leadership Academy
- Workshop/Faculty Evaluations
- Workshop Handouts

### Marketing

- Mission, Vision & Purpose
- Choose Optimism Podcast
- Promise Yourself - Video Contests
- Club Marketing/PR Kit
- Branding Guidelines
- International Committee Request Form
- Gift of Branding Presentation
- Logos
- Social Networking
- Optimist Day

### Leadership Development

- Club of The Year
- Leadership Information
- Presidential Incentive
- 212 Club Video
- Learning Management System
- Optimist Coffee Cafe
- Optimist Leadership Academy
- Teaching Materials
- Optimist Leadership Orientation To Optimism Series
- Webinars 2021-2022
- Webinars

### Programs

- Visual Arts Contest
- Childhood Health and Wellness
- Community Activities
- Junior Optimist International Clubs
- Junior Golf
- Scholarship Contests
- Optimists in Action
- Optimist International Regional/World Championship Oratorical Contest

Select "International Convention"

### Program Resources

- Endorsed Organizations
- Package Programs
- Programs Brochure
- Programs Training Resources

### Forms, Documents & Publications

- Forms (applications, certificates, reports)
- Documents (bylaws, Club administration, officer duties)
- Hotline (Leadership newsletter)

### The Optimist Magazine

- Read current and past issues
- How to submit a story

### Suppliers

- Official Suppliers
- Authorized Distributors of Personalized and Promotional Products.

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Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport  
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Further information will be made available via:

**Optimist International Convention Website:**  
<https://www.optimist.org/Member/convention.cfm>

**Email:** [convention@optimist.org](mailto:convention@optimist.org)

**Phone:** (800) 500-8130, ext 205