



*New Mexico West Texas District*

*Oratorical Contest*

*2011-2012*

**August 1, 2011**

*Dear Executive Board, Club board of Directors, Club Members,*

**ALL OPTIMIST CLUBS, DISTRICT #19, NEW MEXICO/WEST TEXAS**

*As we look forward to O.I. Programs for 2011-2012. Our Oratorical Contest @ all levels must be improved. Participation in this program is dwindling at a rapid rate. We must think "outside the box" to revive this great program for the kids we serve; they deserve this as our future leaders. We have been hitting public schools; this is not getting the job done.*

*Here are some other avenues of approach to enhance participation:*

*Boys & Girls Clubs, Home School, Church Youth Groups, Private Schools, Fraternal Organizations( that do not offer this or similar program). Boy Scouts, Venturing Crews, Girl Scouts. You may know of other sources. I ask you to seek out any opportunities you may be aware of. By working together, each doing their part, thus the puzzle will be complete and all will be winners.*

**2011-2012 TOPICS:"HOW MY OPTIMISM HELPS ME OVERCOME OBSTACLES"**

***O.I. opened the threshold last year for contestant competition up to nineteen years of age. This gives an expanded window for those eligible to compete.***

*Sincerely,*

*Jack Sturgis*

*District Oratorical Chair 2011-2012*

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