

Midwestern Ontario District News Bulletin

February 2014 Volume 27 Issue 2

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Message from Governor Karen

WOW! What a great district! We are in the top 10 districts at Optimist International (as of writing #7). If we add 10 new members by the Second Quarter Board February 22, we could be #1.

Our Second Quarter Board is February 22 at the KW Hotel & Conference Centre (former Delta Hotel) 105 King St, E, Kitchener, ON N2G 2K8. The Registration form was sent to Club Presidents and is available on the MWO web site. The agenda has not yet been finalized but will have a general session in the morning, the director's meeting in the afternoon and the huge celebration of your accomplishments last year at Past Governor Jim Dandy's Awards Banquet. Our Optimist International Guest are Vice-President Harry and Kathleen Margo. Come, take a break from winter (the hotel has an indoor pool), learn more about Optimism and renew old friendships.

Congratulations to the 13 Past Presidents who achieved Honour Club status. Check out the list www.optimist.org home page under Latest News.

Optimist International is organizing a series of regional training days. Just 1 day, no hotel, but lots of interesting topics for only \$25 including lunch. Our regional training day is June 21, so keep this day open. Registration forms should be available soon.

Please welcome our new Optimists in Woodstock. The Woodstock Optimist Club was chartered on 16 December 2013 with 18 new Optimists. This club has hit the ground running, helping families in Woodstock with a fund raiser in December. They are working on organizing their Charter Party Celebration in late February.

Will you be joining the crowd in Las Vegas this year for the Optimist International Convention? You met President Ron Huxley in November, you know he is a great Optimist. So you know he will have an extra special convention. Registration form and a schedule of events is on the Optimist International web site. I hear that the President's Ball will be different this year. Look out your gold digging gear. I really need 2 things in preparation for this convention: more members so I can get extra cards and lessons in Poker so that we can win the Governor's Poker Tournament.

Karen Scott

A Message from Governor-Elect Elaine

One of the functions of the Midwestern Ontario District is to develop people to take leadership roles in our clubs and district. Identifying and preparing these members for leadership positions is critical to maintaining a vibrant, growing organization dedicated to serving the needs of our youth.

At the Second Quarter District Meeting being held February 22, 2014 at the Delta Kitchener, we will be conducting a "Catch a Rising Star" workshop. The workshop is designed to explore the personal benefits and opportunities of leadership within the Optimist organization.

In the past, attendance at this workshop was by invitation only. This year, this workshop will be open to all Optimists that wish to attend and learn how they can take a leadership role.

Please plan to attend. Take the initiative for your District and its future!

Optimist Elaine McLaren
Governor-Elect 2013-2014
Leadership Development Chairperson



Historian

With the passing of Historian Optimist Ken Saxton in December, Midwestern Ontario lost a great Optimist. He will be greatly missed. Please send your historical information to the Governor while we determine how to continue his work.



Awards and Achievements Program

Please remember to send the A & A Chair Julie Cofax notice of your interclub meetings and NOW meetings. You get points for these events. You can see your points on the MWO Optimist web site.

Make plans to attend the
Optimist International Convention

July 10-12 2014 with Karen
at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas!

Information to add to your
telephone directory
H.O.B.Y representative
Tiffany Tosheff
335 Braemore Avenue, Waterloo,
Ontario, N2K 1T8. home phone
number is 519-208-0199 .

Correction to Newsletter Contest Award Categories.

I notice that I left out one category when I reported them in the October Bulletin. Please accept my apologies. The Award Categories are:

- Best overall,
- Clubs 75+ members
- Clubs 41 – 74 members,
- Clubs 40 or less members
- New Club



We have one new club organized in 2013—2014. I look forward to receiving the Club Newsletter from Woodstock

UPDATE FROM THE CHILDHOOD CANCER CAMPAIGN CHAIR

Did you know that the number of newly diagnosed children with cancer increases by an average of **ten children per month** at the Midwestern Ontario Children's Hospital? Supporting children with cancer and their families is a most important job that we can do as Optimists. Your club can choose to support the Childhood Cancer Campaign by helping a family in your community, by supporting your local hospital, by supporting a local organization such as Childcan, or by giving to the Childhood Cancer Campaign.

Here are some more "Did you know's"??

1. The CCC matching grants are still available and the forms are now on our very own website: www.optimismwo.on.ca Please check it out! If you have questions please contact me.
2. The sales of the limited edition CCC pins have gone very well. After paying for the cost of the pins, we have raised over \$1300 for the CCC, which is awesome! There are still a few pins left and they will be available at the next quarterboard.
3. I am pleased to come and speak to your club or to attend a zone meeting. I have attended several club meetings this year so far. Also, please contact me if I can help in any way with your projects.
4. Childcan pays for parking passes for parents at the Kitchener and London hospitals and for when treatment is required at Sick Kids in Toronto. Last year over \$23000 was paid for parking at the Children's Hospital in London.
5. Donations to the Childhood Cancer Campaign should be made out to the CCOF with the memo that the funds are for the CCC. If an individual club member wishes to make a donation in memory of, a tax receipt is issued.

I remain **Optimistic** that one day we can "*rid the world of childhood cancer*".

Jackie Kinder jackie.kinder@rogers.com 519 680 7182

Go Gold! Gold is the colour representing Childhood Cancer. Support the Canada Post Gold Ribbon campaign: www.facebook.com/GoGoldCanadaPost



2nd Quarter Board Registration Information

I seem to be unable to insert Linda's Registration Form in legible format
I am just adding the information here. Marg



Midwestern Ontario Optimist District
Together for the Kids
February 21 & 21, 2014
2nd Quarter Board & Awards Banquet

Sorry Jim ,I
can't get your
logo to copy
here! MR

Member Information

Registration and/or Meals Required

	#	Each	Total
Name	Registration	\$12	
Club	Awards Banquet	\$30	
Address	Awards Banquet Only	\$35	

Make Cheque Payable to Midwestern Ontario District Optimists

Preregistration is required in ordering meals!!!

**KW Hotel and Conference Centre (former delta Hotel) 105 King Street E
Kitchener, On N2G 2K8**

Mail or give completed form to: Linda Adams

#3169 Rd 140, R.R. 2

St. Pauls, On N0K 1V0

Phone 519-393-6759 Fax 519-393-676

E-mail bladams@quadro.net

Just For Fun! AMAZING, SIMPLE HOME REMEDIES:

1. AVOID CUTTING YOURSELF WHEN SLICING VEGETABLES BY GETTING SOMEONE ELSE TO HOLD THE VEGETABLES WHILE YOU CHOP.
2. AVOID ARGUMENTS WITH THE FEMALES ABOUT LIFTING THE TOILET SEAT BY USING THE SINK.
3. FOR HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE SUFFERERS ~ SIMPLY CUT YOURSELF AND BLEED FOR A FEW MINUTES, THUS REDUCING THE PRESSURE ON YOUR VEINS. REMEMBER TO USE A TIMER.
4. A MOUSE TRAP PLACED ON TOP OF YOUR ALARM CLOCK WILL PREVENT YOU FROM ROLLING OVER AND GOING BACK TO SLEEP AFTER YOU HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON.
5. IF YOU HAVE A BAD COUGH, TAKE A LARGE DOSE OF LAXATIVES. THEN YOU'LL BE AFRAID TO COUGH.
6. YOU NEED ONLY TWO TOOLS IN LIFE - WD-40 AND DUCT TAPE. IF IT DOESN'T MOVE AND SHOULD, USE THE WD-40. IF IT SHOULDN'T MOVE AND DOES, USE THE DUCT TAPE.

Warning: Trying these at home may be hazardous to your health!

Greetings from the Optimist Club of Paris Inc.

The Optimist Club of Paris will be celebrating 65 years of service to the youth of Paris on Saturday June 21, 2014. Our plans are not finalized yet but we know you would want to keep this date open to help us celebrate. We will be in contact in the near future with the plans for our exciting anniversary.

Many thanks
Marilyn McCulloch
secretary - Paris Optimist Club



Dear Optimists,

As this is the Season of Sharing, we would like to share with you our new Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation URL address: www.ccof-foec.org

Visit our website and bookmark the new address.

As you also know, your generous contributions enable us to contribute to this important work. Thank you for your continued support in Helping Optimists help kids.

We really hope we can promote and spread wonderful stories of committed Optimists for the new year! Do not hesitate to share with us your pictures, videos and short stories of your projects.

We wish you all the Best for the Seasons.

The staff from of the Canadian Children's Optimist Foundation



JOOI of South Grey , sponsored by the Normanby and Egremont Optimist Clubs is working hard to prove that we are a service club. We have purchased a banner to advertise our presence at events and fundraisers. Seven new members have joined the 7 members from last year for a total of 14. We are participating in JOOI Souper Bowl of Caring to collect food and money for our three local foods banks. This will culminate at a skating social on Feb. 1st at the Normanby Arena. All members have volunteered to chair a community event or fundraiser in 2014 and our calendar is full with 23 such activities listed. Of course we have social activities for extra fun and fellowship too!
 Advisor Marg Rapp

Canadians Love Winter

On the sixth day, God turned to Archangel Gabriel and said, "Today I am going to create a land called Canada. It will be a land of outstanding natural beauty. It shall have tall majestic mountains full of mountain goats and eagles, beautiful sparkling lakes bountiful with bass and trout, forests full of elk and moose, high cliffs over-looking sandy beaches with an abundance of sea life, and rivers stocked with salmon."

God continued, "I shall make the land rich in resources so as to make the inhabitants prosper, I shall call these inhabitants Canadians, and they shall be known as the most friendly people on the earth." "But Lord," asked Gabriel, "don't you think you are being too generous to these Canadians??" "Not really," replied God....."Just wait and see the winters I am going to give them!"

The Santa Claus parade was another success this year. The weather was great and the streets were packed with young and old who were enjoying the bands and floats. The new addition to our float (Rudolph) was a hit with the children . We had a record number of 5 clowns accompanied by 5 young "clowns in training" who were all busy handing out candy. The children along the parade route really react positively to a smiling face and from where I was, waving from the truck, the adults were equally responsive to a smile and a "Merry Christmas!" It reinforces my belief in the power of optimism.

Our club was selected by the parade judges as the winner of "The Best Community Service Float" with a prize of \$150 WAY TO GO! It's nice to know that we have a positive impact in the community.

With a smile, Jack of the Sydenham & District Club



Essay Contest Update – January 2014

Greetings Optimist members and Happy New Year!

The Optimist International Essay Contest 2013-14 edition is well under way in the Midwestern Ontario District #46.

The Essay Contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship!

Club winners advance to the District contest to compete for a \$2,500 college scholarship. The District-level scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundations. In Canada, this is the Canadian Childrens Optimist Foundation (CCOF).

Here are some important things to remember;

Topic – “How Dreams Lead to Success”

700 to 800 word essay, typed and double spaced.

Open to students under the age of 19 that have not graduated from high school or the equivalent.

All essays must be submitted with the Official Entry Form to the local Optimist Club.

For complete ‘Official Rules’ visit www.optimist.org and follow the links to Programs, Scholarship Contest, Essay for further details.

All Club Level competitions are held in early February.

Clubs may offer preliminary prizes at their discretion.

One District Scholarship of \$2,500.00 will be awarded to the winning entry.

The **deadline for Clubs** to submit their winning essay to the District Chair is **February 28, 2014.**

Club Essay Contest Chairs, please be sure to contact me prior to the end of February and let me know if your Club will be submitting an entry for the District level Essay Competition. You can also bring your entries to the 2nd Quarter Board meeting in Kitchener, I will be there Friday pm and Saturday (during the day).

Let’s keep encouraging our young people and “Bring Out the Best in Kids”. Please promote the Essay Contest to your local schools and youth organizations.

Optimistically yours,

Bruce Woods District Essay Contest Chair 2013-14 MWO – Optimist International
185 Albert Street West, Fergus, ON N1M 1X3 519-843-7201 Bwoods13@cogeco.ca



Canadian Children’s Optimist Foundation

Greetings Fellow Optimists,

The year is progressing fast and I encourage you to submit your individual and club donations to the foundation.

Your donations will be recognized as in the past. I will be making a draw at year end for a blanket bearing Governor Karen’s logo. Each member who makes an individual donation will be entered in the draw.

I will be accepting any individual or club donations following my report at the general session at the 2nd Quarter Board.

Several clubs have not designated a Club Foundation Representative. The Club Foundation Rep acts as a liaison with the District Rep. It would help me considerably if you notified me with the name of a volunteer to represent your club.

If you would like to learn more on the foundation you can stop by the training session, which I will be hosting on

Saturday morning during the quarter board.

Hope to see you in Kitchener!!

Past Governor Ken Hayward

District Foundation Rep 519-323-3872

2014 Oratorical Contest Information

The 2013-14 oratorical contest is fast approaching. I encourage each club to sponsor at least one local student speaker. **Take note that the dates have been extended as requested.** Hope you can get some students talking about their passion in your club and zone contests

If at the club level, there are more than three speakers, you may want to host a club contest so you can send 2 or 3 students onto the zone level. .

If you have three or more speakers in your zone, please have your Lieutenant Governors plan their zone contests before March 31st. From the official rules, "Zone contests shall have no fewer than 3 or more than 20 contestants participating."

Each zone will be able to send one or possibly two speakers, depending on numbers, to the regional contest. It would make my planning for the Regional contests much easier, if I could get the number of clubs participating by March 31st

I will plan on 1-3 regionals in April, once again depending on numbers. In order to be fairly done, judges request no more than 6 speakers at any one time.

One regional contest is planned for Saturday April 12 at 09:00 at LHSC Victoria Campus Room B2-116.

I will plan more regionals as needed-- please get numbers to me asap.

The top six of the regional contest(s) will be invited to the district contest at the Third Quarter Board meeting on May 10 in Holstein at the Egremont Optimist Community Centre.

Many thanks,

Michele Ivanouski
District Chair Optimist Oratorical Contest
Optimist Club of Bryanston-Birr



Thank you to all the members who contributed to this Bulletin. You make it relevant for all of us!
Editor, Marg

Optimist Websites:
Midwestern Ontario District: www.optimistmwo.on.ca

Optimist International: www.optimist.org

Optimist Leaders: www.optimistleaders.org

Optimist Mail: www.optimistmail.org
Optimist Mail: ww.optimistmail.org

Dates to Remember:
Feb. 21, 22 2nd Quarter Board, Kitchener
Feb. 28 Submit Club Essay to Bruce
Mar. 21 Numbers for the Oratorical
Regionals to Chair Michelle
May 3 District Spelling Final Kirkton
Community Centre
May 10 District Oratorical Finals

Optimist International
President: Ron Huxley and
1st Lady Debbie

Optimist International
Vice President: Harry Margo
& 1st Lady Kathi

MWO Governor:
Karen Scott

Optimist Mission Statement

By providing hope and positive vision,
Optimists bring out the best in kids



The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself –

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To let all your friends know that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and let your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

To forget the mistakes of the past and to press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.

Optimist International